THE TIMES

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Laker wins six-month respite

The immediate financial problems of Laker Airways appear to have been solved. It is understood that agreement has been reached to reschedule loan repayments of £190m, and that the aircraft manufacturers McDonnell Douglas and Airbus Industrie have played a leading part in the arrangement.

This would give Laker Airways a "breathing space" of at least six months in which to sort out its finances. But the situation could force Sir Freddie Laker, the chairman, to abandon his cheap fares policy as part of plans necessary to improve the airline's cash-flow.

Laker's merchant bankers, Samuel Montagu and Co, are expected to indicate that agreement has been reached between 27 European banks to allow a relaxation of the debt repayments

Business News, page 17

Nigerian threat to exports

British exports to Nigeria, worth more than £1,200m, could be at risk after a budget speech by the Nigerian President. His aim to halt the decline in the country's official reserves could mean a curb on imports Page 15

No public cash for Land's End

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, has decided that the appeal for £500,000 of government money to help buy Land's End for the nation cannot be justified. The decision caused confusion at the National Trust Back page

Trident TV buys Playboy

Playboy Enterprises said in Chicago last night it had signed a formal agreement to sell nearly all its gambling operations in Britain to Trident Television for a reduced price of $26m. The deal includes five gambling casinos, a 50 per cent interest in two other casinos and 80 betting shops.

Budget call to finance ministers

EEC finance ministers have been called on to try to resolve the dispute about the 1982 budget. The European Parliament has produced an amended proposal for more money to go to economic development Page 6

Sprout shortage

Hard frosts have reduced supplies of brussels sprouts by a quarter. Farmers have been harvesting frozen crops, which deteriorate speedily. Only a prolonged mild spell will avert a critical shortage at Christmas Page 5

ACC director

Mr Robert Holmes à'Court, the Australian newspaper and television station owner, has joined the board of Lord Grade's Associated Communications Corporation and taken three *per cent of the voting shares* Page 15

Namibia step

The West's revised constitutional guidelines for Namibian independence were handed to Mr R. F. Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, who said the process appeared to be "still on the tracks" Page 9

World Cup agent

Hunter Davies talks to the man who is not only the agent of Kevin Keegan, one of England's leading footballers, but also looks after the financial interests of England's World Cup team Page 19

Everest assault

The British team under Chris Bonington which will attempt to climb Everest next year by the unconquered east-north-east ridge has been announced. The climb will be made in Alpine style Page 3

Seven miners shot dead by troops in Katowice

By Our Foreign Staff

In the first admission of bloodshed by the Polish authorities since the military takeover, Warsaw radio reported last night that seven workers had been killed and 39 injured in a clash in the south of the country.

The incident occurred when security forces opened fire on Wednesday on strikers who attacked them at a mine in Katowice, as Warsaw radio put *it. In the Baltic port of* Gdansk, where Solidarity was founded, 164 civilians and 162 members of the security forces were injured in violence, the radio said.

The reports appear to confirm the general impression that while Warsaw is calm and quiet, under complete military control, the struggle of the workforce in Polish mines and factories may now be widespread.

The radio, monitored in Vienna, said that "forces of order" opened fire after being *attacked* by striking workers, armed with axes, stones and other implements, who tried to prevent them entering the Wujek colliery at Katowice. There were 41 wounded among the security forces.

Members of the Politburo, including two elected at the last party congress, have been arrested and detained by the military authorities, according to diplomatic sources reaching Western capitals yesterday.

They are said to be Mr Hieronim Kubiak and Mr Jan Labecki, who are both regarded as liberals. If the reports were confirmed, it would indicate that the new military regime has scant regard for the party leadership.

Mr Kubiak, a university professor from Cracow, was an advocate of the national front which had been proposed to embrace *Solidarity, the Roman* Catholic Church and the party.

He had increasingly become frustrated with the way Solidarity was rejecting proposals from the party, and had seen the situation heading for confrontation.

Mr Labecki is from the Lenin shipyard in Gdansk, where Mr Lech Walesa emerged to lead Solidarity. He attracted immediate attention when he became a member of the Politburo during the July party congress by the very fact that he was a worker.

A *distinct liberal in* party terms, he spoke after his election of the need to be politically accountable to the workers, and cut a relaxed, modest figure.

According to Polish diplomatic sources abroad, the Poles insist that the decision to impose martial law was entirely their own. It has even been suggested that General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Prime Minister, informed Moscow of the operation only last Friday, and that Poland's East European allies were not told until the next day, *just* a few hours before the move.

Warsaw radio claimed last night that all industrial plants were working normally. It added that for the last four days, Warsaw bakeries had been working flat out, with a record output of bread.

The report added that life was going on normally in the provinces of Bialystok, Lomza and Suwalki. Calm prevailed, and public transport was operating fairly well.

Although Warsaw is orderly, the military presence is reported to be high. A large number of police and military vehicles are in evidence, with roadblocks east of the Vistula. The main deployment of troops is said to be west of the river.

Besides the arrest of Solidarity members, Western diplomatic reports speak of a crackdown against intellectuals and academics. About 100 members of the Polish Academy of Science are said to have been arrested on Tuesday, including the President, Mr Geysztor. Most of those detained were later released, including Mr Geysztor.

It is also rumoured that university and polytechnic lecturers in Warsaw have been dismissed, and that in Wroclaw musicians and actors have been held.

☐ **Carrington plea**: In his most outspoken *statement* so far on Poland, Lord Carrington yesterday called for the release of all those detained and an early resumption of negotiation and conciliation in the country (Ian Murray writes from Strasbourg).

"This alone", he told members of the European Parliament here, "can produce a solution to Poland's problems".

Lord Carrington said he was ready to arrange urgent consultations on Poland if necessary. In the 48 hours since the EEC foreign ministers had met in London, he said, "the *Polish* skies have continued to darken".

He went on: "We are familiar with natural disasters, but here in the heart of our continent is a man-made disaster on a colossal scale."

☐ **Walesa *arrest***: *Mr Pawel* Cieslar, the Polish Ambassador to Sweden, confirmed yesterday that Mr Lech Walesa was under house arrest in a villa outside Warsaw (John Witherow writes from Stockholm).

He made a passing reference to the arrest while appearing on Swedish radio to defend the declaration of martial law. Officially the Polish Government has only admitted that Mr Walesa is negotiating with the authorities.

☐ **Reagan concern**: President Reagan said today that coercion and violation of human rights on a massive scale had taken place in Poland and he was gravely concerned.

In a strong statement, he said thousands of trade union leaders and intellectuals had been detained.

Reagan statement and Lurie cartoon, page 8
Letters, page 13

Lawson unveils oil and gas sale Bill

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

The first stage of the Government's controversial plans to sell off the oil production interests of the British National Oil Corporation and the British Gas Corporation could be completed by the end of next year and is likely to yield £1,400m.

Mr Nigel Lawson, Energy Secretary, yesterday introduced the Bill which will enable the Government initially to dis*pose of the corporation's oil* production interests and will sweep away the British Gas monopoly *on* purchases of gas, curtail its monopoly in gas supply by opening the market to private competition, and provide the machinery for the disposal of the gas corpora*tion's oil production activities*.

The Bill attracted further broadsides from trade union leaders and Opposition MPs.

Mr Merlyn Rees, Opposition spokesman on energy, said: "This Bill is a parliamentary, financial and national disgrace. It gives extraordinary, extra-parliamentary powers to the Secretary of State to do what he likes, how he likes, when he likes, with our vital national energy assets".

Similar sentiments were expressed by Mr John Edmonds, national energy officer of the General and Municipal Workers' Union who said after the Bill's first reading: "A drunken sailor would be more careful than this Government in squandering valuable assets".

Mr Lawson, speaking at a press conference after publication of the Bill, underlined the Government's espousal of the privatization route to make state corporations more efficient, and said of the Bill: "It will allow the creation of a thriving new British oil company, to be known as Britoil, with a wide spread of ownership by the British public. The articles of association will prevent unacceptable changes in control, whatever the nationalities involved."

Britoil should be established as an operating company by autumn next year and the Government is hopeful that shares will be offered in the company by the year end, although the timing will be shaped by market considerations. The company will encompass BNOC's offshore *production interests and the* public will be offered 51 per cent of the equity, likely to yield £900m for the Exchequer.

The Government is expected to retain the balance of the equity and the possibility of government-nominated directors being appointed to the *board is not ruled out.*

Mr Lawson was at pains to emphasize that the Government would continue to retain strategic control of North Sea oil resources through existing statutory powers and through continued 100 per cent ownership of BNOC's oil trading activities. BNOC has the right, through participation agreements, to take up to 51 per cent of all oil produced in the North Sea.

Yesterday's Oil and *Gas* (Enterprise) Bill also paves the way for the privatization of the offshore oil interests of British Gas although the timing of that disposal has yet to be determined.

British Gas has strongly opposed the oil sell-off plan and relationships with Mr Lawson are not likely to be improved by the new powers which he is seeking to break up the corporation's monopoly in the purchase and supply of gas.

Measures sought by the Energy Secretary will enable private companies to supply gas to industrial consumers and *allow them access to the* corporation's pipeline network.

Sale of the Century, page 15

Hotel Viktoria
Warsaw

Cold cells for the thousands who err

The following letter to the editor from Roger Boyes, The Times *correspondent in Warsaw, was received in London yesterday:*

Poland's new military leadership is rounding up several thousand dissident intellectuals, writers, and union activists in an effort to stamp out any potential opposition. Western diplomats talk of 15,000 arrests but other sources have estimated the total to be at least three times that.

Church sources say that there is a move to concentrate as many of the internees as possible in the Bialeleka jail outside Warsaw. Conditions are said to be extremely bad *with most cells having no* water or heating. The prisoners are technically "interned under the statutes of the state of war" and most have not been charged.

It is sufficient grounds for arrest, to be suspected of *future involvement* in opposition activities. That has created a particularly wide net and secret police, often backed by troops, have been extremely active after the 10 o'clock curfew over the past four days.

Almost all the Solidarity leadership has been arrested—98 union activists are held in Gdansk—though there are mixed reports about the fate of Mr Lech Walesa, still technically the chairman of Solidarity. Some sources, within the Church, say he is being held virtually incommunicado in a *government villa outside* Warsaw—in a smuggled message he is understood to have said: "I see only trees and tanks"—while other reports suggest he has since been moved to a prison.

Long standing ambition

The pattern underpinning the arrests is to deny the nascent opposition any kind of base, either within the church or intellectuals. Journalists and writers who could have written critical pamphlets have been arrested, including the deputy chairman of the Polish PEN Club. (Pax, the Catholic intellectual organisation has been dissolved, and other Catholics outside the organisation have been arrested.

Most members of KOR, the workers' self-defence committee—effectively Solidarity's think tank—are being held, a long standing ambition of the Polish Government even in its most reformist mood. Historians, sociologists and philosophers from the Academy of Science have been detained after trying to stage a sit-in, and organizers of the dissident seminar, "Flying University", active in the mid-1970s have also been arrested, although it has not been active *for some time.*

Students active in the 1976 riots—now frequently young professional people without any strong political leanings—have also been picked up. However, it is significant that the security forces have not arrested any *deputies from the Sejm*, the Polish Parliament.

The military council of national salvation, as the new leadership has named itself, rules with and through the Council of Ministers. That is to say, most ministers have kept their portfolios. But under normal circumstances governmental decisions would have to be submitted to the critical scrutiny of the Sejm, which has developed considerable independence over the past year and indeed has shown sympathy with Solidarity.

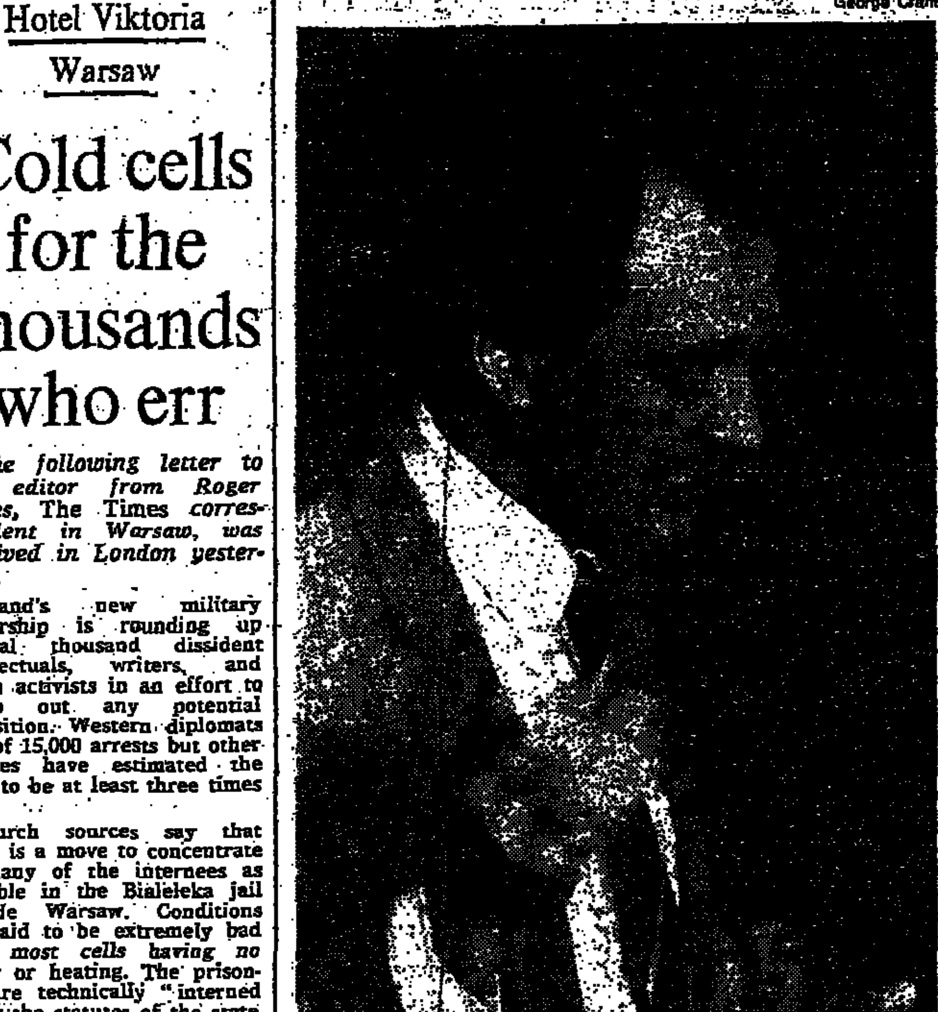
The military leadership has eliminated this problem by cancelling the scheduled sessions of the Sejm and this in turn allows it to preserve a semblance of respect for constitutional niceties and removes the need to arrest deputies. The big problem lies with the reformist wing of the party and the non-Solidarity reformers.

Sources of qualified optimism

General Jaruzelski had represented, until about *two weeks* ago, a source of qualified optimism: here at least was a party chief who swore by dialogue with Solidarity and the Church. Now the reformers are an embarrassment for the regime; economic reform, in the sense of decentralization, will almost *certainly* be abandoned and political reform is almost inconceivable in a situation where the ruling party has a minimal say in the running of the country.

Reformists in the party fear the worst and reformists close *to but outside the party*—such as Mr Stefan Bratkovsky, the president of the union of journalists, are understood to be in hiding. A full scale confrontation will mean a continuation of the internment programme and precious little comfort for the *reform movement* in Poland.

Polish crisis, page 8



George Crans

Mr Livingstone outlining his options yesterday: "We have three months to save London Transport".

Mellish decision to stay delights Foot

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Robert Mellish, the former Labour Chief Whip, rewarded Mr Michael Foot for his recent offensive against the far left by announcing last night that he would not resign as MP for Southwark, Bermondsey, and precipitate a potentially disastrous by-election for the party.

With the decision of Bermondsey *Labour Party last* night to stand by Mr Peter Tatchell, as prospective parliamentary candidate to succeed Mr Mellish, Mr Foot, the party leader, expects there to be a long and bruising struggle between the local party and the *national executive committee* which has refused to endorse Mr Tatchell.

Mr Mellish's decision, cheered loudly when it was announced at a meeting of the parliamentary party, gives Mr Foot at least some time to try to resolve the crisis.

Mr Mellish's statement came during a parliamentary party debate on the state of the party in which one speaker after another rose to attack Mr Wedgwood Benn for his recent speeches for allying himself with the far left.

Mr Foot challenged Mr Benn to name Labour MPs whom Mr Benn had claimed, in a speech in Bermondsey on Tuesday night, had threatened to defect to the Social Democrats when Mr Foot disowned Mr Tatchell.

The debate opened with an emotional speech by Mr Laurence Pavitt who told of the difficulties he had been facing from extremists in his constituency, Brent, South.

He said that Mr Benn was an articulate, able man who had done much for the party, but his two loyalties, to the party in the country and the parliamentary party were causing great stress.

Mr Benn, who followed Mr Pavitt, was said to have immediately turned the meeting against himself by saying: "We are not going to get anywhere by reminiscing about difficulties in our constituencies."

Those MPs waiting to hear from Mr Benn an explanation of his claim the previous day *to be the rightful deputy leader* of the party were disappointed.

During a speech in which he seemed deliberately to be steering clear of controversy, Mr Benn was constantly heckled. He particularly upset his colleagues with a remark that the parliamentary party should start work now on the party's policies.

Mr Foot said later that it was a travesty of the truth to *suggest* that work had not been done.

By far the most bitter criticism of Mr Benn came from *Mr Peter Snape, the Tribunite* MP for West Bromwich, East. He told Mr Benn that he should resolve the divisions at the top of the party by fighting Mr Foot for the leadership.

"In January, Michael Foot should resign and stand for the leadership. Tony Benn should stand against him. Michael Foot would win and Tony Benn would be humiliated." Saying that Mr Foot had been humiliated, betrayed, and harassed Mr Snape said that he would not appeal to Mr Benn's better nature "*because he does not have* a better nature".

Mr Alan Williams, MP for Swansea, West, accused Mr Benn, in his various public statements, of ignoring the achievements of the last Labour Government. Turning towards him, he asked: "How long are you going to continue this nonsense campaign?"

Continued on back page, col 6

Car blast blamed on Iran agents

By Hazhir Teimourian

The car bomb which *exploded in London last* Sunday, killing two Iranians and seriously injuring a third, was being carried by Iranian Government agents with the aim of killing supporters of the anti-Khomeini Mujahedin guerrillas who were gathered at Speaker's Corner in Hyde Park, it was claimed yesterday by exiled representatives of the Mujahedin.

They cited the explosion as the latest example of attacks on them by the Iranian Government and produced apparently genuine documents indicating that a campaign of sabotage and violence was being organized by Tehran against exiled opponents of the regime.

A spokesman for the Iranian *Embassy in London denied the* allegations. He said Mr Kurosh Fulady, the wounded driver of the car, had been dismissed from his post as a doorman at the embassy on November 25 for "lack of discipline".

He added that if any money had been sent abroad from Tehran for sabotage, none of it had reached London.

Pitmen ask for thermal underwear

From Ronald Kershaw
Leeds

As Yorkshire shivered under the *lowest temperatures* recorded for years, Elsecar main colliery, near Barnsley, was brought to a standstill yesterday by striking miners complaining of the cold.

Six transfer point attendants who oversee conveyor belts between the coalface and the *pit bottom* asked the National Coal Board to provide them with thermal underwear.

The management at the pit told them that was not possible and instead offered to send down regular helpings of hot soup. That was not acceptable and the attendants walked off the job. The colliery workforce came out in sympathy.

A board spokesman acknowledged that the attendants had one of the coldest jobs. They work in the cold airstream that is drawn into the colliery for ventilation, and are supplied with warm underclothes, outer clothing and donkey jackets. Thermal underwear, the spokesman said, was not available.

The board said that no discussions could start on the *men's grievance until normal working was resumed.*

Freeze goes on, page 2
Forecast, back page

Fares will jump, GLC warns

By Frances Gibb and David Walker

The Greater London Council is to urge Parliament to pass emergency legislation to override the effect of the unanimous ruling by the Law Lords yesterday that its "Fares fair" scheme was illegal.

Predicting that London's transport system would suffer devastating damage in the wake of the ruling, Mr Kenneth Livingstone, leader of the council, said he was seeking an immediate meeting with Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport.

"We have three months in which to save London Transport", Mr Livingstone said. Without legislation by March 21, there could be a 200 per cent rise in fares, loss of 15,000 jobs (one quarter) in London Transport, and the scrapping of whole bus and Underground routes; in sum, a "major and dramatic contraction of transport in London".

But Mr Howell yesterday placed responsibility for clearing up the confusion on the shoulders of the GLC. They must clean up the mess, he said. He regretted the problems it presented London Transport but added: "*This crisis* is entirely the fault of the GLC who have managed in seven months of folly to create financial chaos".

The reaction of Sir Peter Masefield, chairman of London Transport, was that Londoners would face an unprecedented fares increase of 150 per cent on March 21. The result could be a loss of passengers of between 30 and 50 per cent.

The five Law Lords, Lord Wilberforce presiding, upheld a Court of Appeal ruling that the GLC acted unlawfully in levying an *extra 6.1p rate* to pay for a cut of one quarter in bus and Underground fares. Both the council and the London Transport Executive were in clear breach of their fiduciary duty to the ratepayers, they said.

The appeal was dismissed and total costs of £100,000 have to be borne by the GLC and London Transport jointly.

The Prime Minister immediately welcomed the ruling and said the GLC's action in cutting fares was clearly a breach of its duty to London rate*payers* and wrong in *law*. The Government would need time to consider the long judgment and would not rush into any instant solution or action.

But the ruling was attacked by Mr Michael Foot, the Opposition leader, who predicted it would have very serious consequences for travellers in London, and there were clashes between MPs when Mr Norman Atkinson, Labour MP for Tottenham, claimed the judgment was "an extra-parliamentary political instrument" and would be seen by Londoners *as political bias.*

In judgments that will reverse the way London Transport has been run for a decade, the Lords said the transport system should be run on businesslike lines and should strive to break even. Only on that basis could the GLC subsidize it.

The Transport Act 1969, Lord Scarman said, required the London Transport Executive "to follow, so far as practicable, a financial policy of break-even". It had a duty to see it was run on business principles to ensure, "so far as practicable, that no avoidable loss falls on the ratepayers".

The Act, he said, did not entitle the *GLC and LT executive* to "accept as an objective of policy a deficit . . . merely because it best meets what they regard as the interests of the travelling public and transport needs."

The Conservative-controlled Bromley Borough Council, which challenged the extra rate was jubilant at the decision. Mr Dennis Barkway, leader of the council, said: "What we have seen today is the full panoply of the law at work in our society, which is a democracy under the law".

The GLC is to call a full meeting of the council on January 12 to discuss the implications of the ruling. But Mr Livingstone yesterday reiterated the council's determination to press ahead with the cheaper fares policy. "The Labour group is determined to stay in office and fight to implement our manifesto", he said.



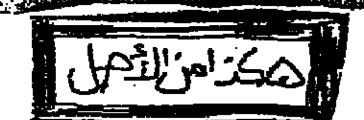
Without emergency legislation, London Transport's £70m deficit would have to be offset either by a supplementary rate, probably of around 5p, which almost matches the 6.1p rate challenged by Bromley. "*So Londoners will still face* a supplementary rate increase, but they will not have cheaper fares", he said.

Alternatively, London Transport would have *to* be given a substantial loan from central Government, which would be paid *off over a period* by increasing fares and cutting services.

In the meantime, the supplementary rate already levied *to* pay for the fares cut would have to be given back to ratepayers. About £15m, or 8 per cent of the total, had so far been passed to the GLC by councils. But the administrative cost of so doing would run into "tens of thousands" per borough, he said.

The Lords' decision had implications not only for London

Continued on back page, col 3



GLC in crisis

Doubt on ratepayers' refunds

Reports by Michael Baily, Marcel Berlins, David Felton, David Nicholson-Lord, Arthur Osman and David Walker.

Ratepayers will have to wait several weeks before they know if the Lords decision means refunds or, conceivably, extra rates.

Mr David Hopkins, treasurer of the City of Westminster Borough Council, which is taking a leading part in elucidating the decision on behalf of the London Boroughs Association, said yesterday: "I will be doing everything I can to ensure refunds; but until legal implications and information on financial consequences are available, ratepayers will have to bear with me."

This much seems clear. The Lords ruled illegal the 6.1p supplementary rate (expressed in pence a pound of rateable value). The £15m of that precept collected by the GLC before Lord Denning's decision ought to be refunded to the borough councils which collected it.

Meanwhile the boroughs will continue to pay to the GLC the money collected on behalf of the Inner London Education Authority. So far only £5m of the £35m demanded by the authority has been raised; but most boroughs are paying the authority in instalments and will chase their ratepayers for the appropriate amounts.

The arithmetic of the GLC's supplementary rate was as follows. The boroughs were asked to pay the equivalent of 16.6p a pound; the GLC asked for 11.9p and the ILEA 4.7p.

Of the GLC's precept, 6.1p was to cover the fares subsidy and certain other items and 5.8p was to cover the withdrawal by the Department of the Enviroment of rate support grant because the GLC was overspending.

Paradoxically, the GLC could benefit by the restoration of the cash equivalent of that 5.8p (about £100m) by the Government. The Department of the Environment confirmed last night that such a refund was theoretically possible if the GLC, by withdrawing its subsidy to London Transport, was within the spending target given it by the department.

Whether the GLC now refunds to the boroughs the precept it collected for fares depends on whether it attempts to raise a fresh supplementary rate. When the boroughs receive such a refund they have to decide how to recompense ratepayers.

Fare rises: 150pc blow for London

Londoners face an unprecedented 150 per cent fare increase on bus and Underground services after yesterday's Lords' decision, London Transport said yesterday. The result could be a loss of between 30 and 50 per cent of passengers.

At a hurriedly convened press conference after the judgment was announced, Sir Peter Masefield, chairman of London Transport, described the likely impact on services as harsh. He said new legislation might be needed in view of the Lords' "surprising" interpretation of the Transport (London) Act, 1969.

"It appears that the judgment means that a substantial increase in fares will be inevitable. If these changes have to be implemented as soon as practicable they must seriously undermine the standard of public transport in London."

Other effects would include a cut in staff of 1,500, about 3 per cent of the workforce, through natural wastage.

London Transport leaders

That comprises the £67m raised by the supplementary rate for the last three months of 1981 and about £30m for the first quarter of next year. London Transport's projected deficit for next year is £334m on expenditure of £713m. Of the deficit, £125m was due to the cheap fares policy, with the remainder coming from pre-existing grant levels, about £90m, and inflationary and other service increases.

Mr Ian Phillips, the London Transport board member for finance and planning, estimated that fare increases of 150 per cent, either introduced in one stage next March or in



Sir Peter Masefield: "Substantial increase inevitable".

instalments, would cut the number of passengers by between 30 and 50 per cent. But since there was no precedent for such in increase, he emphasized that this was a "not very good" guess.

Since the fares were cut in October, travel on the Underground has increased by about 7 per cent and on the buses by about 11 per cent.

Bus traffic is 1 per cent higher than forecast and receipts have dropped by only 19.5 per cent, compared with the 22.5 per cent predicted. On the Underground receipts have dropped by 27.5 per cent in line with forecasts.

Sir Peter and his colleagues are clearly worried about one possible interpretation of the words in the judgment that London Transport must not intend to make a loss in framing its budget.

Sir Peter said that could mean London Transport must aim to break even without taking grant into consideration, a condition he described as "far harsher than imposed on any other major urban transport organization in the world".

He added that that interpretation was probably not intended by those who drafted the 1969 Act. "It means that the whole approach towards transport in London and in major urban centres in this country needs reexamining as to whether what Parliament intended is now being achieved," he added.

The object of the fare increase would be to break even by the end of 1983, when there would be a further increase to take account of inflation.

Sir Peter called on the Government to provide more money for public transport.

The cost of changing back ticket machines is likely to be several hundred thousand pounds; it was made clear yesterday. No season tickets will now be issued for longer than three months and payment of refunds is being suspended.

Provinces: New safeguard on subsidies likely

Confusion reigned yesterday in transport undertakings throughout Britain as a result of the Lords ruling. Almost all are subsidized, and an early effect of the ruling seems likely to be legislation to ensure that the subsidies remain legal.

Three Acts will have to be closely scrutinized: the Transport (London) Act, 1969, for London Transport; the Transport Act, 1968, for public transport in provincial conurbations and shire counties; and the Railways Act, 1974, for British Rail.

The first two were framed when transport finance was much more under control than now. In the light of the new ruling they appear no longer to cover requirements.

But even without new legislation an early effect of the ruling, whatever the GLC may say, could be to transfer ultimate control of London Transport back to central government, where it was before the 1969 Act. That may happen if London Transport runs out of money before March, when the new higher fares come into effect, and the GLC does not have the funds to support them.

In such circumstances the GLC is empowered to authorize the transport authority to raise loans. But because of the GLC's precarious financial conditions, members may well demand government guarantees before granting them. And the Government, as the price of such guarantees, would certainly require London Transport to follow policies it approved of, which would be very different from those of the GLC.

Government policy in recent years has been, broadly, that subsidies to local buses and trains are acceptable provided they are neither excessive nor indiscriminate. The Lords appear to have found that the GLC policy was both.

London Transport stands to lose £125m a year because of the ruling but does not expect serious cash-flow difficulties until next month. That is when it may need loans.

Political reaction last night in the West Midlands, Merseyside and South Yorkshire was cautious; although those authorities subsidize public transport from the rates, they work under statutes different from the GLC's.

The West Midlands County Council, which Labour took over last May, raised a supplementary rate totalling 14p in the pound to cover a 23 per cent cut in bus fares.

But Mr Gordon Morgan, the council leader, said yesterday after consultations at the Association of Metropolitan Authorities in London that the Lords decision did not directly affect the West Midlands.

Ministry: 'Block grants are vindicated'

Sources high in the Department of the Environment last night hailed the Law Lords' decision as a vindication of the much criticized block grant introduced by the Government in 1980.

Three of the five Law Lords made specific reference to the Greater London Council proceeding with its scheme to cut fares in full knowledge that by doing so the council would lose £100m or more in government grants.

Lord Wilberforce had noted that in disregarding the effects on the GLC's block grant it had breached its "fiduciary" duty to hold a fair balance for ratepayers. Lords Diplock and Brandon also mentioned the block grant.

A similar point was made in a statement by Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport. The block grant created pressures against overspending; by ignoring them and choosing to load the burden on to ratepayers, the GLC had been reckless, he said.

Under the block grant system the Government assesses the need of local authorities to spend on such services as transport, and asigns them grants and guidelines accordingly. The Transport Department had calculated that the GLC ought to subsidize London Transport by about £75m.

"The Government has always opposed indiscriminate subsidies and wholly uneconomic cuts in fares", Mr Howell said.

☐ Mr Kenneth Livingstone, leader of the GLC, said yesterday that the Lords' judgment would allow the Labour Party to make transport a key issue in the London borough elections next May.

Members of the ruling group of Labour councillors at County Hall acknowledged that few issues could compel as much unity in their ranks as the fares issue. Mr Andrew McIntosh, the Labour leader deposed by Mr Livingstone after last May's GLC elections, was an author and advocate of the policy of cutting fares and increasing the rates subsidy to London Transport.

Mr McIntosh, absent yesterday on business in Vienna, is known to think that sensible leadership by Mr Livingstone could secure from him the full backing of his fellow Labour councillors and kill, possibly for many months, the prospect of further defections by Labour members to the social democrats.

Mr Livingstone yesterday claimed the support of social democrats and Liberals in campaigning for new legislation on London Transport. Recently Mr Adrian Slade, the GLC's sole Liberal councillor, deplored the action taken by Bromley council.

Trade unions: Action to fight redundancies

Transport unions last night combined to condemn the Lords' decision. They are due to meet on Tuesday to decide what action to take.

That meeting could be influenced by statements from the Transport and General Workers' Union, the country's largest, which said yesterday that any redundancies caused by the decision would be opposed by industrial action if necessary.

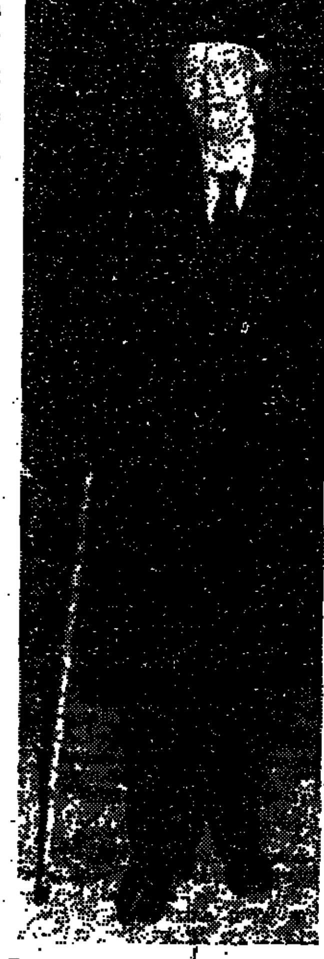
Mr William Morris, the union's national officer for busmen, said: "We think this is bad news for London, bad news for people who travel by London Transport.

"London Transport has said that it could mean 15,000 redundancies if it went back to the pre-October situation. We will not accept any redundancies", Mr Morris said.

He said that transport policies operated by local authorities in other parts of the country were open to challenge. The union had estimated that 50,000 jobs could be at risk if the Lords' judgment was carried through across the country.

Mr Sidney Weighell, general secretary of the 180,000-member National Union of Railwaymen, who organize many workers on the Underground, said last night: "Both the Government and judges are determined to prevent us running intelligent services".

Mr Donald Pullen, deputy general secretary of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, the train drivers union, said that the decision was "a disaster".



Lord Denning in London yesterday; his decision was upheld by the Law Lords.

The law: Words that define the GLC's duty

Lawyers advising provincial transport authorities will be anxiously studying the judgment to see whether they, too, might eventually be put in the same position as the GLC.

Section 1 of the Transport (London) Act places a duty on the GLC "to develop policies and to encourage, organize and, where appropriate, carry out measures, which will promote the provision of integrated, efficient and economic transport facilities and services for Greater London."

Section 5 of the Act places a duty on the London Transport Executive to have "due regard to efficiency, economy and safety of operation" when providing a transport system.

All the Law Lords concluded (though in slightly different ways) that the words economic and economy meant that London Transport had to strive to break even, to balance its books, to look at its operations in a businesslike way. That, they said, had not been done.

The Transport Act, 1968, does not have the equivalent of the London Act's section 1, but it does have a provision (section 9(3)) putting a duty on passenger transport authorities outside London to have "due regard to . . . economy and safety of operation", very similar wording to that which affects London Transport.

Ghost town streets of Belfast come alive

From Richard Ford
Belfast

The queue of cars waiting to enter Belfast city centre would have most motorists impatiently tapping the steering-wheel, but for Mr William Hamilton, manager of the Abercorn Cabaret in Castle Street, the long delay is a delight.

For it means that a brave attempt to lure people back to the centre of the city at night is being made. Four nights ago, for the first time since 1974, private cars were allowed through the security gates to park unattended in city centre streets.

Of course, they are still stopped and searched before entering the security zone, and vehicles must be out by 2 am. But it is a step forward to what the city council predicts will be a "brighter Belfast".

Everyone, from the security forces to hardpressed businessmen who have seen takings at clubs and public houses in the area plummet, are hoping that no discordant incident will end the experiment.

Mr Hamilton is among those who confidently expect the people of Belfast to revert to their night-time pursuits in the city centre now they can use their cars.

Because of repeated car bombings city centre streets in Belfast took on the eerie atmosphere of a ghost town when private cars were banned in 1974.

When people ventured out it was often to cinemas and public halls outside the main security zone. On the first night of the trial period about a hundred cars were brought into the centre, and in the days before Christmas that number is expected to increase.

Mr Hamilton manages the club above the restaurant where two people died and 130 were injured when a bomb exploded without warning in 1972. He said yesterday: "Usually I have a pass and can get through the security barriers quickly, but there was a long queue on that first night.

"I was delighted, as it means, I hope, that Belfast will come alive again in the evening. It's been a difficult period, with sometimes as few as six people in the club at night."

☐ Tougher action is planned against American support groups which raise funds for use by organizations involved in violence in Northern Ireland (Nicholas Ashford writes from Washington).

That was made clear during an interview given to *The Times* by Mr William Clark, the Deputy Secretary of State.

While emphasizing that there was no question of direct American involvement, Mr Clark said the United States was investigating the activities of some groups which were supplying aid to terrorist organizations.

Asked what the aim of these investigations was, he replied that it was to expose them and stop them supplying funds to terror groups.

He did not specify the groups under investigation but it is known that the principal organization is the New York-based Irish Northern Aid Committee, known as Noraid.

The British Government has frequently complained to Washington about the activities of Noraid, which channelled more than $250,000 to the Provisional IRA during the first half of this year when the Maze hunger strike was receiving wide publicity in the United States.

The Justice Department has said that Noraid is "an agent of the IRA" and in October one of the trustees, Mr Michael Flannery, was arrested in New York on charges of conspiring to ship guns to the IRA.

During his visit to London and Dublin Mr Clark met senior members of the British and Irish intelligence services.

During the interview Mr Clark repeated a remark about the unification of Northern Ireland with the South which caused controversy during his Irish visit, but emphasized: "This is an observation which is widely held in America, and is not American policy".



Mr Philip Thorne repairing electricity lines for the fifth consecutive day in Somerset yesterday.

Power back in South but freeze goes on

Most of the homes in south-west England blacked out by the blizzards had their power restored yesterday.

Only about 800 homes in Somerset, 200 in Devon and 70 in Cornwall were still in the dark last night, and the South Western Electricity Board hope to restore all supplies by tonight.

Excessive speed was blamed yesterday for accidents in which 42 cars and lorries crashed in freezing fog on the M1 near Alfreton, Derbyshire.

The motorway in Derbyshire between junctions 28 and 29 was closed for three hours and with thousands of cars waiting in three lanes

Derbyshire police said: "Motorists were driving too quickly and too close to the vehicles in front and were unable to readjust when they ran into patches of fog. It was sheer madness."

At Melton, Humberside, a father and son were found unconscious from the cold in their parked car yesterday. Mr Christopher Young, aged 37 and his son Martin, aged 15, of York, had been in the car for nine hours.

They were taken to Hull Royal Infirmary, where the boy recovered fairly quickly; Mr Young was detained with hypothermia.

In Rotherham there were no buses because diesel fuel froze in tanks, and many lorries were abandoned.

In North Wales the Horseshoe pass, near Llangollen, Clwyd, and the A5104 Chester to Corwyn road at Bryneglwys were still blocked by snow yesterday. Hundreds of old people have been housebound for more than a week because frozen snow has not been removed from pavements.

Burst pipes have created a water shortage in the West of England and in south Cheshire.

☐ A Down's syndrome boy aged eight died in south Wiltshire after his father carried him through a blizzard this week from a snowbound car to their isolated home, an inquest was told yesterday. Mark Meyer had to be carried because of his fear of snow, but he struggled and his clothes became soaked. A verdict of death by misadventure was recorded.

Forecast, back page

Mortgage change

By Lorna Bourke

Tax relief on mortgage repayments is to be simplified and speeded up from April, 1983, when repayments will be made net of basic rate tax relief. Repayments are made gross at present, and relief claimed from the Inland Revenue.

That can lead to delays of several months, but under the new system relief at the basic rate will be deducted from repayments as soon as the borrower starts to pay. Higher rate taxpayers will claim the extra relief in the usual way.

Announcing the changes yesterday, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said that the Government had no intention of restricting the amount of relief to which taxpayers are entitled.

Legislation will be introduced in the 1982 Finance Bill and the change will mean a cut in Inland Revenue staff of about 1,000.

'PICKETS FOLLOWED TAX CHIEF'

From Our Correspondent
Edinburgh

The head of Scotland's tax collection centre claimed yesterday that car loads of pickets attempted to stop him posting cheques worth millions of pounds to the Exchequer in the civil servants' dispute earlier this year.

Mr Andrew McMaster, senior principal officer of the Inland Revenue offices in Cumbernauld, which handles up to £500m of tax cheques daily, told Edinburgh Sheriff Court that he was followed from Cumbernauld to Edinburgh by three cars. On the motorway the cars surrounded him.

Mr McMaster was giving evidence at the trial of Mr Ted Elsey, aged 37, a union official of Hogarth Road, Crawley, Sussex, who has denied a contravention of the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act, 1875.

He has denied two charges alleging that he followed two officers of the Inland Revenue

Mr McMaster said that in the strike no mail deliveries were made to his offices; but he made arrangements with the Post Office for him to collect the mail from the head offices in Glasgow.

On April 6 he returned to Cumbernauld with the mail and with a colleague, Mr James Rose, intended to post the cheques.

He claimed that he crossed the picket line outside the Inland Revenue offices and became aware that a convoy of cars was following them.

Engineering chiefs seek tougher labour laws

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Engineering employers are going for a tougher policy on labour law with hopes that the political emergence of the Social Democrats will prevent any hope of repeal of the legislation by a future Labour administration.

The influential Engineering Employers Federation is pushing for an amendment to the impending trade union Bill so that companies would be free to suspend employees without pay during strikes involving only a few people.

Mr Anthony Frodsham, retiring director-general of the EEF, said yesterday: "All things change with time. It seems at least possible that in the past few months we have seen the beginning of a fundamental transformation of British politics and society.

"It seems now that three million unemployed will not after all lead to the return of a Labour government subservient to the union interest.

"Unions may not be able quite so easily to ensure the repeal of legislation which they do not like. If this proves to be so, our industry, economy and society may reap great benefits."

The EEF is to put its views to Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary of State for Employment, on measures for labour law "with renewed hope that permanent union reform may at last come about as a result of the rise to power, or at least to a share of power, of a central political force".

Mr Frodsham denied that the EEF advocated support for the Social Democrats.

The EEF is disappointed that Mr Tebbit has not taken up its key proposal on industrial relations legislation. "We want a lay-off clause which would help to redress the imbalance of power between organized labour and employers without invoking legal penalties against individuals", he said.

"We envisage a measure to enable an employer to lay off his workforce without pay, but with safeguards, during a dispute whether or not this is expressly provided for in the contract of employment.

"That would protect employers whose businesses are paralysed through action by a small group of employees.

The EEF believes that such a provision would deter irresponsible militancy.

Mr Frodsham concluded: "The Government should have the courage to take this reasonable step now".

Science report

Monitoring global climate and pollution

By Tony Samstag

The Stockholm Conference of 1972 was the first international attempt to coordinate the environmental activities of nations on a regional and global scale. With the tenth anniversary of that massive bureaucratic upheaval imminent, scientists and statesmen are well into their first round of meetings to assess and celebrate their achievements to date.

Accordingly, Dr M D Gwynne, of the United Nations Environment Programme, itself a product of the Stockholm Conference, presented a paper to the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences last month in which he described his agency's efforts to compile data on the environment, vital for conservationists to avoid speaking in windy generalities.

The popularized assessment of the rate at which tropical rainforests are disappearing—"every five minutes an area the size of Regent's Park"—is the most notorious example.

The Global Environment Monitoring System, granted the felicitous acronym, Gems, is in effect a scientific accounting system that quarters the globe in search of data from which reliable generalizations can be made.

From its headquarters in Nairobi it coordinates a network of monitoring projects in strictly defined categories, many of them operated by other United Nations agencies.

"The emphasis," Dr Gwynne said last month, "is always on data quality rather than data quantity."

The broad areas of monitoring are climate, long-range pollution, health, oceans and land.

Dr Gwynne reported that more than seventy countries are involved in an atmospheric monitoring programme, with more than a hundred sampling stations measuring rainfall, solar radiation, trace gases, aerosol and other possible climatic determinants.

An inventory of the world's glaciers, which so far has involved about 750 in 21 countries, takes advantage of the fact that "fluctuations of glacial snow and ice-masses . . . lend themselves more readily to monitoring than many other parts of the climate system".

Long-range pollutants, particularly sulphur dioxides, are measured by a network of 50 stations in 18 European countries, which is expected to spread to North America as the phenomenon of "acid rain" is more completely understood.

Similar sampling stations monitor air and water quality and food contaminants; 300 stations in 70 countries concentrate on the public health aspect of rivers, lakes and ground waters: "which are the major source for municipal supplies, irrigation, livestock and selected industries".

Ocean monitoring is still in its infancy, with pilot projects in the study of oil pollution and some of the regional clean-up programmes operated by the regional seas unit of Unep.

The most interesting of the various Gems projects, however, are probably the techniques it has worked out for environmental mapping over land on virtually any scale, and covering soil degradation, the state of tropical forests, range lands and deserts.

£50,000 RAID ON HOSPITAL

Armed raiders stole £50,000 from the Medway Hospital, in Gillingham, Kent, yesterday. Two men, one carrying a hand gun, squirted ammonia at security guards and made off with the hospital wages in two suitcases.

Police said they ran to a maroon Peugeot.

Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 25; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 35; Canada $2.50; Canaries Pes 125; Cyprus 500 mils; Denmark Bkr 7; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mkk 6.50; France Frs 6.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 75; Holland Gl 3; Iran IR 135; Iraq LD 0.500; Irish Republic 30p; Italy L 1600; Jordan LD 0.425; Kuwait KD 0.450; Lebanon LL 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 35; Madeira Esc 75; Malta 30c; Morocco Dir 7; Norway Kr 6.50; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 12; Portugal Esc 75; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR 4.50; Singapore $4.5; Spain Pes 125; Sweden Skr 7.00; Switzerland S frs 3.00; Syria L£5.50; Tunisia Din 600; USA $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 50.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Case lost by computer pools man

Mr Michael Hayward, aged 31, a computer analyst, of Down Hatherley, near Cheltenham, who was dismissed for using his employer's computer to work out football pools' permutations, was not unfairly dismissed, an industrial tribunal has decided. The decision, reached after three hearings at Gloucester, was by a majority of two to one.

Eagle Star dismissed Mr Hayward after the management discovered unauthorized programmes in the computer.

At the hearings earlier this year Mr Hayward said he had been victimized. The computer, he said, was widely abused by the company's employees, who made up pictures on the terminal, of Racquel Welch naked and the Monna Lisa.

39 months' jail for travel agent

William Sherrard, aged 45, a travel agent, swindled the members of an Essex school band out of £23,000, Wood Green Crown Court, in London, was told yesterday.

He accepted cash for a booking from Chafford School, Rainham, for a band trip to San Bernardino County, in the United States, but bought no tickets. The travel agent used the money instead to pay other debts.

Sherrard, of Philip Lane, south Tottenham, pleaded guilty to five deception charges and one offence of carrying on a business, Omnibus Travel, for which a compulsory winding up order had been issued. He was jailed for 39 months, the sentence to run with a two-year prison sentence he is serving

Jesus claimants' testimony fails

Twenty people claiming to be Jesus Christ have asked for £30,000 left by Mr Ernest Digweed, of Samuel Road, Portsmouth, who was found dead four years ago in a tent in his sitting room. He said in his will that the money was for the Son of God to use at the second coming.

The Public Trustee Office, which is handling the will, said none of the claimants had produced the necessary identification.

GPs' sick note threat dropped

A threat by family doctors to stop signing workers' sick notes from the new year was called off yesterday. The threat was part of a British Medical Association campaign to stop sick notes for the first seven days of illness.

The BMA said its negotiators were confident that the Government would soon announce that doctors no longer needed to sign short-term sick notes.

Gallantry award for BR worker



Mr Tommy Hague, aged 45, a British Rail fork lift truck driver, and his wife, after Sir Peter Parker, the railways chairman, had presented Mr Hague yesterday with a new award, the Chairman's Award for Gallantry. Mr Hague rescued a colleague trapped in British Rail's engineering works foundry at Norwich. The rescued man died later.

Printer dodged fares for 9 years

Eric Thompson, a printer, of Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex, dodged British Rail fares for more than nine years with a season ticket that had expired in February, 1972, Southend magistrates heard yesterday. He was fined £500, with £20 costs, and ordered to pay £1,500 compensation.

Mr Frank Lockhart, Thompson's solicitor, said he had not altered or forged the ticket. It was just that no one had bothered to check it properly.

Two escaped prisoners are recaptured

Two escaped prisoners, described by the police as dangerous, have been recaptured. George Lomax and Derek Wallbanks escaped from a police van near Newcastle upon Tyne three weeks ago while on their way to court. Lomax was recaptured in London and Wallbanks on Tyneside.

Tory in jail break

Mr Daniel George, a Conservative councillor, became the first prisoner in Rotherham's new police station yesterday when he was accidentally locked in the cells while inspecting the building. The door had to be removed to release him.

Underground dumping of atom waste dropped

By Nicholas Timmins

The Government has abandoned a controversial programme of geological tests to establish the feasibility of storing nuclear waste underground and appears to have put off a decision on such storage for decades.

High-level radioactive waste from power stations will instead be stored as a glass compound on the surface at British Nuclear Fuel's Sellafield plant, in Cumbria.

The Government's volte-face has been greeted with delight by the group which have opposed the programme of drilling 15 test boreholes to investigate the suitability of geological strata for storage. Friends of the Earth Scotland described it yesterday as "their greatest ever victory".

The decision has, however, stunned and bemused many closely involved with the programme, who for the past five years have been supporting the Government's insistence that the tests were necessary and that underground storage was likely to be the safest long-term method of disposal.

Since the programme started in 1975 only one borehole has been drilled because of intense local opposition to each proposal to drill.

In announcing the decision, however, Mr Tom King, Minister for Local Government, claimed that work overseas had established that underground storage was in principle feasible.

Desk studies and laboratory work would continue in the United Kingdom to confirm the applicability of overseas work, he said, "but exploratory drilling will not be needed for this purpose".

A demonstration underground disposal facility, which under present plans would have been built in the late 1990s, would not be constructed, Mr King said. Instead Britain would study such facilities in Sweden, Canada, Belgium and the United States.

The decision, he said, "does not mean that further geological fieldwork would not be useful and, indeed, possibly necessary for decisions which may have to be taken at some future date . . . but it does not have any present priority".

Appeals and applications for planning permission to drill at sites in Scotland, Northumberland, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Somerset, Hertfordshire and Gloucestershire, among others, will be withdrawn.

In justifying the decision Mr King quoted from a report by the Radioactive Waste Management Advisory Committee earlier this year, which said that serious consideration should be given to storing the waste on the surface for 50 years, possibly much longer. That would allow more of the heat to dissipate, making eventual underground storage easier.

Mr King's decision was criticized yesterday by a senior member of the advisory committee, Dr Stanley Bowie, a leading geologist, who said "far more emphasis has been given to that paragraph of the report than should have been. The thing has been warped". Because of the opposition to the drilling, the paragraph had been "picked out and greeted with an enormous sigh of relief".

The committee had, however, in the same report, firmly endorsed the government's previous policy of "pursuing vigorously" the options for disposal, including underground disposal.

"As far as I can see this is simply delaying the obvious, putting off for a very long time work we should be doing today. What we will need is site-specific information, not general information from desk studies. They are not going to tell us any more about United Kingdom geology than we know already."

Overseas work might not be directly applicable in the United Kingdom, he said. Sweden's geology, for example, was totally different from Britain's.

Dr Bowie said it was his personal view that underground storage was the safest form of disposal. It removed radioactive waste from the immediate environment, reduced the risk of leaks, or of aircraft crashing on to it, and even of terrorist activity.

The Natural Environment Research Council, which runs the programme for the Government protested yesterday that it had not been consulted on the decision. It would want to advise ministers on the work that would be needed to be done before the council could form a fair view on the feasibility of underground disposal.

Under the programme as it now remains, work will continue on ocean disposal of high level waste, and the Government will publish a White Paper on priorities for waste disposal.

Work will also continue on turning the radioactive waste into glass for storage. That would be a necessary step before underground disposal, and a safer method of storing the waste on the surface.

The target: Everest from the south, with the east-north-east ridge on the skyline, right.

British team to climb Everest Alpine-style

By Ronald Faux

Chris Bonington, who led the successful British expedition to Everest "the hard way," in 1975, is preparing for an Alpine-style attempt on the mountain next year. With three other climbers, Mr Bonington is to try the unclimbed east-north-east ridge that leads from Chinese territory to the 29,028ft summit.

It will be one of the smallest teams ever to visit the north side of the mountain. The climbers will rely on their own resources to establish camps, carry loads, and fix ropes. Oxygen cylinders will be taken to base camp, but they hope to reach the summit without using them.

Mr Bonington, aged 47, was climbing leader on last year's successful expedition to Mount Kongur, in western China, which was sponsored by Jardine Matheson, the Far East trading company, who are also supporting the Everest attempt.

With him will be Peter Boardman, director of the International School of Mountaineering at Leysin, Switzerland; Dick Renshaw, aged 31, a painter and decorator from Cardiff, who has climbed extensively in the Alps and Himalayas; and Joe Tasker, aged 33, a climbing equipment specialist who has made many first ascents in the Alps.

In support will be Dr Charles Clarke, medical officer, and Mr Adrian Gordon.

The proposed route

The British Mount Everest Expedition to China sets out next March, and marks the return after 40 years of British climbers to the north side of the mountain. They will make the attempt before the monsoon, and hope to reach the summit early in May.

The climbers will follow the route noted in 1924 by Professor Noel Odell, a climber on the British expedition that year, when Mallory and Irvine disappeared on a neighbouring ridge of Everest.

"Odell said then that he thought the ridge would be possible, although technically harder than the north buttress route", Mr Bonington told The Times.

☐ A talk Mr Bonington was to give at Clifton Hall, Rotherham, has been cancelled because of the icy weather.



The team: From left, Chris Bonington, Peter Boardman, Dr Clarke, Adrian Gordon, Dick Renshaw, Joe Tasker.

Heseltine's house sale move 'unreasonable'

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, was accused yesterday of acting "unreasonably and therefore unlawfully" in deciding to take over council house sales in Norwich.

Mr Nigel Macleod, QC, for Norwich City Council, claimed in the High Court in London that the minister had acted as no reasonable minister would have acted. He said Mr Heseltine had taken the "drastic steps" open to him under Section 23 of the Housing Act, 1980, without giving the council a chance to present its case.

The Labour-controlled council is seeking court orders to quash Mr Heseltine's decision to take over council house sales, and to prevent him from acting on his decision. The application is being heard by Lord Justice Donaldson and Mr Justice Goff, and is opposed by the minister.

Mr Heseltine decided to send in a team of officials after accusing the council of "dragging its heels" over selling council homes.

Mr Macleod argued in the Queen's Bench Divisional Court that the powers given to a minister to take over council house sales had to be exercised very carefully.

Lord Justice Donaldson said that, as he understood the law, the sole question was whether the minister's decision was one which could properly be taken under the Act.

Mr Macleod said: "The city council has made no secret of its view that the legislation providing for the sale of council houses is unwise; but equally it has disregarded that in the way it has carried out its duties.

"It regards itself as a responsible authority and has every intention of complying with the law."

He said the legislation would mean the disposal of about £20m of housing in the council's area. The council wanted to handle sales carefully to avoid problems in the future.

The council controlled about 25,000 houses, half the city's total housing. It had no previous experience of house selling and sales proceeded slowly while an organization to undertake the task was set up. The rate of sales had greatly improved recently.

Mr Macleod said the council had acted reasonably while Mr Heseltine had not. He had failed to consider the council's responsibilities other than house selling when assessing progress.

The council disputed the minister's contention that the district valuer should help to speed up sales. It would be unlawful to use his services because it would be his duty to arbitrate in disputes which might arise over sales.

Lord Justice Donaldson observed that every appeal so far against values set by the city council on houses to be sold off had been successful and the values had consequently been reduced.

Mr Simon Brown, opening the case for the minister, said Mr Heseltine's powers to intervene in Norwich did not depend on the failure of the city council to meet its obligations, but rather on an assessment of the problems facing the tenants who wanted to buy their homes.

The minister had to look for yardsticks as to whether the tenants were having difficulty in exercising their rights to buy expediently.

The case continues today.

Cash threat to £300m station plan

By Hugh Clayton
Environment Correspondent

British Rail disclosed yesterday that its £300m development plan for Liverpool Street station, in London, might have to be cancelled for lack of funds. The latest version of the project has also run into new trouble with conservationists, who consider it the largest building project in the City since restoration after the Great Fire of 1666.

"There is one remaining hurdle, and that is the question of raising the money", the British Rail Property Board said yesterday. "It is at a crucial stage and there are a number of balls in the air. We hope they will come down early in the new year."

The aim is to meet most of the cost through a vast commercial development rising to twice the height of the nineteenth-century Great Eastern Hotel, which will be preserved next to an enlarged station. The new complex will cover the site of Broad Street station, which will be demolished.

The 25-acre development site will be dominated by an enlarged and modernized Liverpool Street station.

A new feature of the plans is a proposal to dismantle the long Victorian "nave" over platforms 9 to 11, and replace it in two shorter pieces. "We are splitting it in half and putting it over four of today's platforms instead of two", the board said.

Mr John Cheshire, secretary of the preservation group which opposed the development plan in the 1970s, said dismantling the "nave" amounted to demolishing a listed building, and might be "technically disastrous".

Joseph rules out early school voucher scheme

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

The formidable difficulties associated with education voucher schemes, as set out yesterday by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, appear to rule out any possibility of their introduction, certainly in the near future.

Sir Keith attracted the wrath of several Conservative colleagues when he announced at the party conference in Blackpool last October that he was intellectually attracted to the idea of education vouchers as a way of increasing parental choice of schools, although he was aware that great difficulties were involved.

Mr Edward Heath, the former Prime Minister, said any attempt to introduce such a scheme would split the Conservative Party and alienate the whole teaching profession.

Under the proposed system parents would be given a voucher equal to the average cost of their child's education, which they would then be free to "spend" at the school of his or her choice.

Schools would prosper to the extent that they attracted vouchers, and would therefore have a much greater incentive than at present to satisfy parents, the scheme's advocates say.

In a Commons written reply yesterday Sir Keith announced the contents of the letter he has sent to the two main advocates of education vouchers the National Council for Educational Standards and the Friends of the Education Voucher Experiment in Representative Regions.

In his letter Sir Keith reaffirms his attraction to education vouchers "as a means of eventually extending parental choice".

However, the difficulties needed to be rigorously considered.

"Only if it is clearly possible to formulate a scheme which could deliver, in a way which could be commended, more benefits than are obtainable under the 1980 Act would an experiment be worth considering", he added.

The Education Act, 1980, gives parents the right to send their child to the school of their choice unless that would lead to the inefficient use of resources.

Among the main difficulties identified are the substantial extra costs involved if independent schools were included in a voucher scheme.

16-plus exam doubts, page 6

State farms ruled out of Labour's land policy

From John Young, Agriculture Correspondent, Cambridge

State farms have no place in the Labour Party's plans for public ownership of agricultural land, Dr Gavin Strang, an opposition frontbench spokesman on agriculture, said yesterday.

He also distanced himself from colleagues in favour of wholesale nationalization.

"There will never be a day when the Labour Party will go down the road to state farming", he said. But a degree of public ownership of land was the only way to halt the decline in tenancies and enable young people without the means to buy land to become farmers.

Dr Strang told a highly sceptical audience at a conference organized by Savills, a firm of estate agents, that right-wing opinion always confused the issue by talking about state farming, but the agricultural community had a right to see that an immensely valuable national asset was managed in its interest.

The ownership of land by pension funds and insurance companies was as abhorrent as state farming, he suggested.

Public ownership would assist conservation, and Exmoor was an outstanding case for nationalization to stop farmers ploughing moorland.

Fishing rights should not be sold at ridiculous prices to rich Germans and Japanese. Instead miners and bus drivers should be able to cast their lines in the lochs and rivers of Scotland.

Lord Middleton, president of the Country Landowners Association, described the Labour Party as an antediluvian dinosaur which argued that the only way to pull the country out of recession was more nationalization.

The party was being taken over by the extreme left, which did not want any power, political or economic, in the hands of the individual.

No country had adopted state agriculture except under the coercion of a dictatorship, and in every case food production had become a shambles. Poland was starving and Russia was totally incapable of feeding its people.

The beauty of the private landlord and tenant system was that it was a highly sophisticated business partnership with an intimate relationship between the partners. Once the state took control, it would become the biggest absentee landlord since William the Conqueror.

BIG SAVINGS POSSIBLE ON PENSIONS

By David Blake
Economics Editor

Plans to make local authority and health service employees pay more for their pensions could save the Government more than £600m a year by 1983. The savings will come if the Cabinet approves a proposal to make the 1,750,000 people in those two sectors pay an extra 2 or 3 per cent of their salary as a contribution towards their pensions.

The idea is part of the Government's response to the Scott report which looked at the implications of inflation-proofed public sector pensions. To the great annoyance of the Prime Minister, the report did not advocate breaking the inflation-proofing which public service employees enjoy. But it did say that there was a case for making them pay more.

Those covered by the latest proposal pay between 5 and 6 per cent of their salaries.

That is less than the 8 to 9 per cent that is notionally deducted from the pay levels of the Civil Service for their inflation-proofed pensions. The scheme is being pushed by its backers as a way of bringing the local authorities and health service employees into line with central government.

But the fact that central civil servants do not actually hand over cash, while the rest of the public sector does, means that there is bound to be bitter union opposition to the scheme.

Matters are made more difficult by the fact that the Government wants to hold pay rises in the public sector to 4 per cent this year. The extra pension contributions would not become payable until 1983, but the fact that they are being considered might harden the attitudes of pay bargainers.

Law Report December 18 1981 House of Lords

Fares reduction beyond GLC's powers

Regina v Greater London Council and Another, Ex parte Bromley London Borough Council

Before Lord Wilberforce, Lord Diplock, Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Scarman and Lord Brandon of Oakbrook

[Speeches delivered December 17]

The House of Lords held unanimously that a supplementary rate issued by the Greater London Council on London ratepayers in order to enable the council, by a grant to London Transport Executive, to finance the cost of reducing fares by 25 per cent, was ultra vires the provisions of the Transport (London) Act 1969, where the council had issued the supplementary rate to implement an election promise.

In so acting, Lord Scarman said, the GLC had abandoned business principles and that was a breach of duty owed to ratepayers and was wrong in law.

The House dismissed conjoined expedited appeals by the Greater London Council (GLC) and London Transport Executive (LTE) from the Court of Appeal (Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Oliver and Lord Justice Watkins) (*The Times* November 11) which had allowed with costs an appeal by Bromley London Borough Council from the judgment of the Divisional Court (Lord Justice Dunn and Mr Justice Phillips) (*The Times* November 4) that the GLC were entitled to impose a supplementary precept on London boroughs in order to pay for the reduced and simplified fare structure introduced on London Transport's bus and Underground services on October 4, 1981.

Bromley had applied for an order of certiorari to quash the supplementary rate of 6.1p in the pound; and asked for a declaration that it was ultra vires and an injunction to restrain the defendant authorities from implementing the decision to operate the reduced fares structure. The Court of Appeal issued an order of certiorari to quash the precept, but granted leave to appeal.

Section 5 of the 1969 Act provides: (1) Subject always to the requirements of section 7(3) of this Act, it shall be the general duty of the Executive to exercise and perform their functions, in accordance with principles from time to time laid down or approved by the Council, in such manner as, in conjunction with the Railways Board and the Bus Company, and with due regard to efficiency, economy and safety of operation, to provide or secure the provision of such public passenger transport services as best meet the needs for the time being of Greater London".

Section 7 provides: "(3) The Executive shall so perform their functions as to ensure so far as practicable — (a) that at the end of each such period as may from time to time be agreed for the purpose of this paragraph between the Executive and the Council the aggregate of the net balance of the consolidated revenue account of the Executive and any subsidiaries of theirs and the net balance of the general reserve of the Executive is such (not being a deficit) as may be approved by the Council with respect to that period, and (b) that, if at the end of any accounting period of the Executive the said aggregate shows a deficit, the amount properly available to meet charges to revenue account of the Executive and their subsidiaries in the next following accounting period of the Executive exceeds those charges by at least the amount of that deficit.

"(6) The Council, in exercising or performing their functions under this Act, shall have regard — (a) to the duty imposed on the Executive by subsection (3) of this section; ... and where the requirements of paragraph (b) of the said subsection (3) fall to be complied with by the Executive, the Council shall take such action in the exercise and performance of their functions under this Act as appears to the Council to be necessary and appropriate in order to enable the Executive to comply with those requirements."

Mr Robert Alexander, QC, Mr Peter Weitzman, QC, and Mr James Goudie for the GLC; Mr John Drinkwater, QC, and Mr Christopher Lockhart-Mummery for LTE; Mr David Widdicombe, QC and Mr Harry Sales for Bromley London Borough Council.

LORD WILBERFORCE said that the case concerned the validity of a supplementary precept issued by the GLC to Bromley for the levying of a rate of 6.1p in the pound in respect of October 1, 1981 to March 31, 1982. The precept was issued pursuant to a GLC resolution dated July 21, 1981 which was in turn passed by way of implementation of a commitment, contained in an election manifesto for the May 1979 election, on which the present majority on the GLC was elected.

The supplementary precept went to all London boroughs. Bromley applied to the High Court for judicial review of the GLC action by way of certiorari. They failed in the Divisional Court but the Court of Appeal granted their application, quashed the supplementary precept and declared that it was ultra vires, null, void and of no effect.

The LTE were a party to the proceedings because the precept was issued to enable the GLC to finance, by grant to the LTE, the cost of reducing fares overall by 25 per cent and of introducing a simplified zonal system. If the precept was set aside, LTE would not be able to maintain those charges; and to reverse them would cause considerable dislocation.

The precept was attacked on two main grounds: (1) that it was beyond the powers of the GLC as defined by the Transport (London) Act 1969; (2) that even if the GLC had the necessary statutory powers, the issuance of the precept was an invalid exercise of their discretion under the Act. That ground might be divided into two contentions (a) that the exercise of the GLC's discretion was unreasonable, or (b) that the GLC, when deciding to issue the precept, did not take relevant considerations into account, or did take into account irrelevant considerations or misdirected themselves as to the law.

Both those grounds depended on the fact, which it was right to emphasize at the start, that the GLC, although a powerful body, with an electorate larger and a budget more considerable than those of many nation states, were the creation of statute and had only powers given by statute.

The courts would not lightly interfere with the exercise of the wide discretion conferred on the coucil by Parliament. But their actions, unlike those of Parliament, were examinable by the courts, whether on grounds of vires or principles of administrative law (which might overlap).

It made no difference on the question of legality, as opposed to reasonableness, whether the impugned action was or was not submitted to or approved by the relevant electorate: that could not confer validity on ultra vires action. Indeed, it formed part of Bromley's argument, that the GLC, in so far as they considered that they had a commitment to bring about the reduction in fares, regardless of other considerations, misdirected themselves in law.

The first ground of attack involved construction of the 1969 Act. Before 1970, transport in London was governed by the Transport Act 1962, as amended by the Transport Finances Act 1966. Under the 1962 Act the London Passenger Transport Board (the predecessor of the LTE) had to balance their revenue account taking one year with another. The 1966 Act allowed grants to meet deficits on revenue account to be made by the minister out of national revenue.

The Transport Act 1968 set up passenger transport authorities (PTAs) in various parts of the country. The 1969 Act created a new system for London, forming the LTE and putting them under the control of the GLC which replaced central government as a grant-making body. The provisions of that Act were examined in detail by Lord Justice Oliver and since his Lordship broadly agreed with his analysis, he would confine argument to the essential points.

The general duty of the GLC was stated, in section 1, as being to develop and encourage measures which would promote the provision of "integrated, efficient and economic transport facilities and services for Greater London."

There had been much argument about the meaning of those words, particularly "economic": no doubt they were vague, possibly with design. It had been strongly argued that the word meant something like "on business principles"; but for present purposes his Lordship would take as the meaning most favourable to the GLC "cost-effective" or "making the most effective use of resources in the context of an integrated system".

Section 3 gave the GLC power to make grants to LTE "for any purpose" and no doubt those words were wide enough to cover grants to revenue as well as for capital purposes. But the section could not be read in isolation. The extent and manner in which the power was to be exercised had to be controlled by the fact that the GLC owed a duty to two different classes.

First, for meeting the needs of Greater London, they had to provide for transport users: those included not only the residents of London, but also commuters and tourists. Most of those wuld not pay rates to the GLC.

Second, they owed a duty of a fiduciary character to their ratepayers who had to provide the money. Those were said to represent only 40 per cent of the electorate and probably a smaller proportion of the travelling public: they would themselves, most likely, also be travellers. Most of the rates (62 per cent) had to be found from commercial ratepayers. For the extent of that fiduciary duty *Prestcott v Birmingham Corporation* ([1955] Ch 210) remained valid in principle, although free travel for selected categories had since been authorized by statute.

Those duties must on the authorities be fairly balanced one against the other. *Roberts v Hopwood* ([1925] AC 578) was concerned with a case where there had been an election which, it was claimed, gave a mandate to the council to pay the wages there in question.

But Lord Atkinson emphatically rejected the proposition that, however excessive or illegal their scale of wages might be, they were bound to put it into force, against the interests of ratepayers, because their constituents gave them a mandate so to do.

Part II of the 1969 Act, containing sections 4 to 15, was headed "The London Transport Executive". They were set up by section 4 "for the purpose of implementing the policies which it is the duty of the council under section 1 to develop".

Sections 5 and 7 were critical for present purposes. His Lordship read section 5(1) and said that the further triad of words including "economy" seemed to point rather more clearly than section 1 in the direction of running on business-like or commercial lines; but it would be treating "economy" too narrowly to treat it as requiring LTE to make, or try to make a profit. It did, on the other hand, prevent the LTE from conducting their undertakings on other than economic considerations. The initial words were important as drawing attention to the paramount financing provisions of section 7(3).

His Lordship read the relevant parts of sections 7 and 11. The argument under section 11 was hopeless in the absence of a formal resolution; the position under section 11 was that fare proposals were submitted to, and approved by the GLC. The submission, approval and validity depended essentially on the effect of section 7.

The rival arguments could be summarized as follows: for Bromley, it was said that the LTE must run their undertaking on business principles and so far as practicable must meet their revenue charges out of fares and other available internal revenue. If they incurred a deficit in one accounting period, they must ensure "so far as practicable" that that was made up in the next accounting period. Under section 7(3)(a), it was open to LTE to agree with the GLC on a period






Above: Lords Wilberforce, Diplock, Keith of Kinkel, Scarman and Brandon of Oakbrook who ruled that the GLC's cheaper fares scheme was illegal yesterday in judgments spanning 90 pages. Their unanimous decision came two weeks after the seven-day hearing of the appeal by the GLC against the Court of Appeal's ruling against the "Fares Fair" scheme.

(which might be for more than one year) within which a favourable balance, on revenue account and reserve, had to be established; that was to prevent an accumulated deficit being built up. The GLC, Bromley submitted, had power to make grants in aid of revenue, but — and subsection (6) made that clear — they must exercise that power with due regard to the LTE's duty, so far as practicable, to balance their revenue accounts. What they could not do was to allow, or encourage, the LTE to abdicate any duty, or renounce any effort to avoid a deficit.

The GLC and LTE, on the other hand, while accepting that accumulated deficits had to be avoided, submitted that the LTE, in making up their revenue account, and putting forward fare proposals, might take account of a prospective grant on revenue account from the GLC.

They said that the fallacy of Bromley's argument and also of Lord Justice Oliver's judgment, lay in assuming or holding that "revenue account" in paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (3) meant account on internally generated revenue alone. Since GLC grants in aid of revenue went into revenue account, the LTE's duty under subsection (3) was only to avoid a deficit after bringing into the revenue account existing, or prospective, grants from the GLC.

They sought to reinforce that argument by reference to supposed parliamentary intentions. It must, they argued, have been in Parliament's contemplation that deficits would be incurred. Parliament might indeed have desired that, regarding transport as essentially a social service, such deficits could only be made good by grants from the GLC. Parliament was content to leave the financing of them to the GLC, subject only to a prohibition against accumulated deficit.

As that argument touched on important issues of transport policy, his Lordship had considered it carefully. There had been for some years discussion, on the political level, as to whether, and to what extent, public transport, particularly in capital cities, should be regarded and financed as a social service, out of taxation, whether national or local.

Their Lordships could not take any position in that argument; but his Lordship could not see that in the Act of 1969 Parliament had in that year taken any clear stance on it. For the GLC it had not been argued that a policy of free travel was open to the GLC under that Act, although the present majority of the council saw such a policy as desirable but not now realizable.

Nor did the actual circumstances of 1969 support the argument. On the figures there was no justification for trying to read into the 1969 Act provisions, possibly suitable for the very different conditions after 1974, in favour of discretionary deficits. The only safe course was to try to understand the contemporary language.

There were two clear provisions in the Act. The first was in section 7(3) (b) which stated the LTE's obligation to make good a deficit in the year following a deficit year. That obligation the LTE had to meet so far as practicable. That pointed to the taking of action which it was in the power of the LTE to take.

The corresponding provision as regarded the GLC was section 7(6) which dovetailed with section 7(3). That recognized that the duty stated in section 7(3) (b) (to make up a deficit in year two) was one which "falls to be complied with by the Executive" and then obliged the council in performing their functions to have regard to that duty and take action which would enable LTE to comply with those requirements.

Such actions might take several forms: the council might direct fares to be raised or services to be adjusted. Or the council could decide to make a grant. But they could only do that after they had "had regard" to LTE's duty under section 7(3). The statutory obligations of GLC and LTE fitted in with one another: LTE must carry out their duty as defined in section 7(3); the GLC could not exercise their powers unless and until LTE carried out that duty and must then do so with proper regard to their fiduciary duty to the ratepayers.

If those constraints were not to exist, there would be no limit on the power of the GLC to make grants in aid of revenue, since the Act provided for no governmental control. His Lordship found it impossible, in the light of the previous history and far more definite language used, to accept that Parliament could have intended that that should be so.

To say that did not impose on LTE a rigid obligation to balance its accounts every year, nor, as it was at one time put in argument, to maximize fares. There was flexibility in the words "so far as practicable", and the obligatory establishment of a reserve gave room for manoeuvre, as indeed LTE accounts from 1970 showed.

But given that, it appeared clear that neither the LTE in making their proposals, nor the GLC in accepting them, could have power totally to disregard any responsibility for insuring, so far as practicable, that outgoings were met by revenue, and that the LTE ran their business on economic lines.

The Act conferred a large degree of autonomy on the GLC and the LTE but required them both to operate subject to the interlocking restraints spelt out in it.

Did the council and executive act in accordance with the applicable statutory provisions? In his Lordship's view they plainly did not.

The LTE for 1980 were running a deficit. Acting in accordance with their obligations under the 1969 Act, they submitted to the GLC, in November 1980, proposals to break even by a possible increase in fare revenue, increased productivity, and an assumed GLC grant of £80m. Their budget contained a careful review of the measures taken by way of economy and better fare collection to keep the deficit down as far as practicable. It represented a serious attempt to comply with the Act. If a radical change was made from that budget, that suggested strongly that it was made outside the Act.

After the change in control in May 1981, the new GLC leader immediately intimated to LTE that they should submit proposals involving a general reduction in fares of 25 per cent, proposals which would to the extent of about £69m increase the operating deficit.

That increased deficit would have to be borne by the GLC ratepayers, and, as it soon appeared, would automatically bring about a loss of rate support grant, under central government legislation, involving an additional heavy burden on the ratepayers of approximately £50m attributable to the fare reduction, not far short of the whole cost of the 25 per cent reduction itself.

The LTE submitted proposals including a new zoning scheme. That, in itself, might well be advantageous but was wholly ancillary to the 25 per cent reduction. The GLC approved them.

In his Lordship's opinion both the GLC and LTE were in breach of their duties under the Act. The LTE were, in their own words, meeting the GLC requirements. They could not have thought that they was complying with their obligations under sections 5 and 7 of the Act.

The GLC could not have considered, as they were obliged to do before they could make a grant to revenue that the LTE were complying with their obligation under section 7(3).

Further, in deciding to proceed to make a grant to support the fare reduction, once it became apparent that the ratepayers' burden would be approximately doubled, they acted in breach of their fiduciary duty as defined above. They failed to hold the balance between the transport users and the ratepayers as they should have done.

His Lordship was therefore clearly of opinion that the actions of the GLC and of the LTE were ultra vires the 1969 Act. For those reasons, which coincided almost wholly with those given by Lord Justice Oliver, he would dismiss the appeals.

LORD DIPLOCK, concurring in the result, said that it could not be too emphatically stated that the House was not concerned with the wisdom or fairness of the GLC's decision to reduce the fares charged in Greater London by the LTE which made it necessary to issue the supplementary precept, or the greater part of it. All that their Lordships were concerned with was the legality of that decision: was it within the limited powers that Parliament had conferred by statute on the GLC?

The conflicting interests which the GLC had to balance in deciding whether or not to go ahead with the 25 per cent reduction in fares, notwithstanding the loss of grant from central government funds which that would entail, were those of passengers and the ratepayers.

It was well established by the authorities that a local authority owed a general fiduciary duty to the ratepayers from whom they obtained moneys needed to carry out their statutory functions, and that that included a duty not to expend those moneys thriftlessly but to deploy the full financial resources available to the best advantage, the financial resources of the GLC relevant to the present appeals being the rate funds obtained by issuing precepts and the grants from central government respectively.

The GLC's decision in the present case was not simply about allocating a total financial burden between passengers and ratepayers; it was also a decision to increase that total burden so as nearly to double it and to place the whole of the increase on the ratepayers.

As the GLC well knew when they took the decision to reduce the fares, that would entail a loss of rate grant from the central government funds amounting to about £50m which would have to be made good by the ratepayers. So the total financial burden to be shared by passengers and ratepayers for the provision of an efficient public passenger transport system was to be increased by an extra £50m without any equivalent improvement in the efficiency of the system, and the whole of the extra £50m was to be recovered from the ratepayers.

That would clearly be a thriftless use of moneys obtained by the GLC from ratepayers and a deliberate failure to avoid any action that would involve forfeiting grants from central government funds. It was thus a breach of the fiduciary duty owed by the GLC to the ratepayers. His Lordship accordingly agreed that the precept issued pursuant to the decision was ultra vires and therefore void.

His Lordship would also have held the decision and the precept to be void on another ground dealt with by Lord Justice Oliver. That was that in exercising the collective discretion of the GLC under section 11 to direct or approve a reduction of fares by 25 per cent the members of the majority party by whose votes the effective resolutions were passed, acted on an erroneous view of the applicable law, in that from first to last, they regarded the GLC as irrevocably committed to carry out the reduction, whatever might be the additional cost to the ratepayers, because a reduction of that amount had been pre-announced in the election manifesto issued by the political party whose candidates formed a majority the members elected. That was erroneous in law.

LORD KEITH, concurring in the result, said that what had happened in this case was that the LTE, knowing what the GLC, as reconstituted after the election of May 1981, wanted to be done, submitted to the GLC for approval proposals for the general level and structure of fares which incorporated the 25 per cent overall reduction, and those were duly approved.

His Lordship was of opinion for the reasons expressed that it was contrary to the LTE's duties under the Act to submit proposals which involved an arbitrary reduction of that kind in the existing general level of fares, which it was not suggested had been fixed otherwise than in accordance with ordinary business principles. Nor was it within the GLC's statutory powers to approve of the proposals.

Both LTE and the GLC acted ultra vires in relation to the proposed reduction of fares. It had to follow that the supplementary precept to finance the reduction was also ultra vires and had to be quashed.

LORD SCARMAN said that on the true construction of the 1969 Act he accepted broadly the Bromley submission. Section 7(3) was a paramount subsection declaring the nature of the financial duty imposed on the GLC and LTE. It required LTE to follow, so far as practicable, a financial policy of break-even.

Grants in support of revenue from fares were envisaged: but as a necessity, and not as an object of social or transport policy. Although advance budgetting which took account of grant income to make good anticipated unavoidable loss on operations was authorized, the subsection did not erect grant financing of deficit into an object of policy.

Nothing in section 7 cut down or modified the fiduciary duty of the GLC to their ratepayers, a duty which required them to see that the services of their instrument, the LTE, were provided on business principles so as to ensure, so far as practicable, that no avoidable loss fell on the ratepayers.

Accordingly his Lordship accepted the Bromley submission that the Act required that fares be charged at a level which would, so far as practicable, avoid deficit. It was plain that the 25 per cent overall reduction was adopted not because any higher fare level was impractable but as an object of social and transport policy.

It was not a reluctant yielding to economic necessity but a policy preference. In so doing the GLC abandoned business principles. That was a breach of duty owed to the ratepayers and wrong in law.

LORD BRANDON, after considering on construction that it was beyond the powers of the LTE to submit to the GLC for their approval, and beyond the powers of the GLC to approve, proposals for an overall reduction of 25 per cent in the level of fares charged by the LTE for the carriage of passengers in trains and buses operated by them, went on to examine the further question of discretion.

Assuming, contrary to his Lordship's opinion on construction, that it was the intention of the Act that the provision by the LTE of proper passenger services for Greater London was to be financed partly by fares paid by passengers and partly by income grants from the GLC derived ultimately from rates levied on the ratepayers of the London boroughs, and further that the extent to which such provision was financed from the one source or the other was a matter for the administrative discretion of the GLC, the question was whether the GLC, in approving the mix of somewhat under 70 per cent and somewhat over 30 per cent which they did approve, exercised their administrative discretion lawfully.

It was plain for two reasons that they did not do so. The first was that they considered themselves bound to exercise their discretion in the way they did because they had promised to do so in their election manifesto.

It was, of course, entirely appropriate for a council the majority of whose members had been elected after setting out a particular policy in their election manifesto to take into account and give weight to that circumstance when exercising their discretion in relation to that policy after they had come to power. But it was entirely wrong for such a majority to regard themselves as bound to exercise their discretion in accordance with their election promises, whatever the cost might turn out to be.

It was an inevitable inference from the evidence taken as a whole that the majority on the GLC, when they approved the proposals for a 25 per cent overall reduction in fares, were motivated solely by the belief that, because they had promised such a reduction before their election, they were completely and irrevocably bound to implement it after being elected.

The second reason why they did not exercise their discretion lawfully was that the GLC persisted in implementing their pre-election policy even after it had become apparent to them that, because of the withdrawal by central government of a large amount of block grant which they expected to be available to them, the cost to the ratepayers of the London boroughs was going to be nearly doubled.

On those assumptions it was the duty of the GLC to balance fairly the interests of the travelling public on the one hand and of the London ratepayers on the other. The decision they had made, to persist in the implementation of their election policy on public transport was not a decision which the council, properly directing themselves in law, could reasonably have made.

His Lordship would if necessary be willing to dismiss the appeals on the basis of his answer to the question of discretion.

Solicitors: Mr Rex A. Lanham; Mr Vivian J. Moorfoot; Mr Richard E. Pugh, Bromley.

Blacking of ship was unlawful secondary industrial action

Marina Shipping Ltd v Laughton and Others (The Antama)

Before Lord Justice Lawton, Lord Justice Brightman and Lord Justice Oliver

[Judgment delivered December 11]

The master of a ship had authority to pledge the credit of the person in control of the vessel for harbour dues when he went into port but he could not bind the owners of the ship without their express authority. When charterers had undertaken to pay harbour dues and their agents instructed the port authority that the ship wished to enter the docks and subsequently she did enter, the contract for services was between the port authority and the charterers.

Consequently the blacking of the ship by employees of the port authority on union instructions was unlawful secondary action within section 17 of the Employment Act 1980, there being no contract between the port authority and the owners for the purposes of section 17(6) and accordingly the owners were entitled to injunctive relief to stop the blacking.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by Mr Brian Laughton and Mr Harry Shaw, officials of the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) from Mr Justice Parker who on December 4 granted an interim injunction to the plaintiffs, Marina Shipping Ltd, the owners of the motor vessel Antama, to stop the blacking of the Antama to enable her to sail out of Hull, on the ground that the blacking was unlawful secondary action within section 17 (1) *(b)* of the Employment Act 1980.

Section 17 of the Employment Act 1980 provides: "(1) Nothing in [section 13 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act 1974 as amended by the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Amendment) Act 1976 which restricts liability with respect to acts done in contemplation or furtherance of trade disputes] shall prevent an act from being actionable in tort on a ground specified in subsection (1) *(a)* or *(b)* of that section in any case where — ... *(b)* one of the facts relied upon for the purpose of establishing liability is that there has been secondary action which is not action satisfying the requirements of sub-section (3), (4) or (5) below.

"(2) For the purposes of this section there is secondary action in relation to a trade dispute when, and only when, a person — *(a)* induces another to break a contract of employment or interferes or induces another to interfere with its performance, or *(b)* threatens that a contract of employment under which he or another is employed will be broken or its performance interfered with, or that he will induce another to break a contract of employment or to interfere with its performance, if the employer under the contract of employment is not a party to the trade dispute.

"(3) Secondary action satisfies the requirements of this subsection if — *(a)* the purpose or principal purpose of the secondary action was directly to prevent or disrupt the supply during the dispute of goods or services between an employer who is a party to the dispute and the employer under the contract of employment to which the secondary action relates; and *(b)* the secondary action (together with any corresponding action relating to other contracts of employment with the same employer) was likely to achieve that purpose.

"(6) In subsections (3)*(a)* and (4)*(a)* above — *(a)* references to the supply of goods or services between two persons are references to the supply of goods or services by one to the other in pursuance of a contract between them subsisting at the time of the secondary action...".

By a time charterparty the Antama was let on hire to a Belgian company in July 1981. The charterers agreed to pay all harbour dues. While the vessel was on charter the Panamanian owners sold her to the plaintiffs, a company incorporated in Malta, the beneficial owner being a Turk. The ship was under the control of the charterers carrying a cargo of palm kernel to Hull and Hamburg when the shipping agents, General Freight, acting on the charterers' instructions, made arrangements with the port authority for the vessel to dock at Hull.

On November 23, 1981 when the Antama docked in Hull certain members of the crew approached the ITF, an international federation of transport unions, with complaints about their conditions of service, in particular, their pay. Their complaints were investigated by Mr Shaw the second defendant, who considered that they were justified. On behalf of ITF Mr Laughton, the first defendant, demanded of the owners of the vessel that the crew be paid the standard European rates fixed by ITF with back pay from the time the crew signed articles.

The owners claimed they were unable to meet the demand so ITF decided that the ship should be blacked, to deprive the ship of services which would normally be rendered by members of unions affiliated to ITF. In accordance with ITF instructions lock keepers, members of the National Union of Railwaymen employed by the British Transport Docks Board refused to operate the locks to allow the Antama to sail after the cargo had been unloaded. The owners issued a writ seeking, inter alia, an injunction to stop the blacking of the vessel and allow it to sail, which was granted by Mr Justice Parker. The defendants appealed.

Mr Leonard Hoffman, QC and Mr C.W.F. Newman for the officials of ITF; Mr Roger J Buckley, QC and Mr Timothy Charlton for the owners.

LORD JUSTICE LAWTON said that had the blacking occurred before August 1, 1980, when the Employment Act 1980 came into force the owners could not have come to court asking for relief, notwithstanding that on the facts they clearly had a cause of action for unlawful interference with their contracts with the charterers and others, and for interference with business by reason of unlawful means.

It was accepted by both counsel that before August 1, 1980, the owner's two causes of action were not actionable against either ITF or their officials because of the operation of section 13 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act 1974 as amended by the 1976 Act. In 1980 Parliament decided that the protection to trade unions and their officials was too wide and as a consequence amendments were made to section 13 of the 1974 Act by section 17 of the 1980 Act.

On the face of it what ITF through its officials was doing was inducing the lock keepers to break their contracts of employment with the port authority and prima facie that was unlawful secondary action, but Parliament had provided for certain kinds of secondary action which should not lead to proceedings against trade unions. The relevant type was section 17(3)(b), which clearly applied in this case because the action taken by the local ITF official has succeeded in preventing the vessel from leaving the docks.

If section 17(3)(a) had stood by itself what had happened would have come within (a) because the purpose of the blacking was to deprive the vessel of the usual services provided by the port authority, the persons deprived were the owners of the vessel and the method of depriving them was by inducing breach of contract between the lock keepers and the port authority.

However, under section 17(6)(a) if there had been a contract between the port authority and the owners the secondary action would have been lawful under section 17(3). On the other hand if at the material time there had been no such contract between the owners and the port authority the secondary action would not have been lawful under section 17(3).

Everything turned on the question of on whose behalf the shipping agents made such contract, if any, for the provision of the port authority's services. Mr Hoffman submitted that the contract was made on behalf of the owners. Mr Buckley contended that it was made on behalf of the charterers.

Mr Hoffman put the case in this way. When a vessel was on a time charter the master was prima facie the agent of the owners and, as such had ostensible authority, from the fact of his being appointed master, as agent of the owners to authorize expenditure on the owners' behalf.

One of the master's most obvious duties was to go into port and so far as British ports were concerned, whenever a master took a vessel into port there were almost certainly dues to be paid, and, ostensibly, the master had authority to undertake on behalf of the owners, that the charges and dues would be paid.

That was an attractive proposition but it lacked any legal authority. Mr Hoffman had invited the court's attention to an early case, *London Corporation v Hunt* ((1681) 83 ER 565,) which concerned the person responsible for paying the toll for a ship moored in the Thames. It was held that the master was responsible.

That was a long way from saying that the master had ostensible authority for the owners when a ship was on a time charter to pledge the credit of the owners for harbour dues. Times had changed since then and in particular in the shipping world.

Mr Hoffman accepted that the court could take judicial notice of the fact that nowadays ships were frequently on charter. Ships in deepwater traffic (excluding coastal traffic) might be under the control of the owner, somebody to whom they were demised of charterers under a time charter. Nobody could know what the position of the particular ship was until inquiries were made.

When a master went into port he might well have authority to pledge the credit for charges for whoever was in charge of the ship. It was not necessarily the owner and no port authority ought to assume that a master was pledging the owners' credit until they had made inquiries.

What happened in this case was that shipping agents in Hull, well known to the port authority, agreed with the authority that the vessel was to be admitted into the docks and the shipping agents were prima facie responsible for all dues and charges.

Mr Hoffman submitted that the court should infer that the port authority would look to the owners for payment of dock charges and dues, basing his argument on the scheme of the Harbours, Docks and Piers Clauses Act 1847, in particular on section 44 which allowed the port authority to arrest the ship while in dock if the charges and dues were not paid.

As Lord Justice Oliver pointed out in argument, the Act as a whole did not say who was to be responsible for the payment of dock dues, merely the kind of relief provided. Mr Hoffman also relied on the standard terms and conditions of the port authority in Hull, which were such as to be more likely to apply to owners than charterers.

The answer to all those points was that there was no holding out by the owners of the vessel that the ship's master had any authority to incur expenses for the ship's dues. When the shipping agents made a contract with the port authority they had no authority of any kind from the owners of the vessel to contract on their behalf.

Mr Hoffman got over that by saying that when the ship came into Hull the very fact of entering the docks was a ratification of the contract the agents had made with the port authority. That depended entirely on the foundation of Mr Hoffman's case, that the master at all material times had ostensible authority to pledge the owners' credit for harbour dues. His Lordship did not accept that.

It seemed that the master did not and could not ratify that which had been done by the shipping agents. It followed that, so far as the port authority were concerned, if the dues and charges were not paid they would look to the shipping agents, and if they did not get their money they would have to find out the unidentified principals for whom the agents were acting. They could not have gone directly against the owners because they had no contract with the owners.

Consequently although the ITF officials had succeeded in bringing themselves within section 17(3) they had failed to comply with the necessary provision of showing that subsection (6) applied, because there was no contract between a party to the dispute and a party the supply of whose services were interrupted by ITF. The secondary action accordingly was unlawful, the appeal would be dismissed and the owners were entitled to injunctive relief.

Lord Justice Brightman and Lord Justice Oliver agreed.

Solicitors: Clifford-Turner; Holman, Fenwick & Willan.

Bank women win equality point

Worringham and Another v Lloyds Bank Ltd

Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Shaw and Lord Justice Templeman

[Judgment delivered December 10]

The Court of Appeal gave effect to the decision of the European Court of Justice on March 11, ([1981] ICR 558) in disposing by an agreed declaration of an appeal by Lloyds Bank Ltd from the judgment of the Employment Appeal Tribunal (Mr Justice Kilner Brown presiding) on November 9, 1978 (*The Times* November 10, 1978; [1979] ICR 174).

The appeal tribunal had allowed an appeal by Mrs Susan Worringham and Miss Margaret Humphreys, two bank employees, from an industrial tribunal and had held that the pension exculsion provision in section 6 (1A) *(b)* of the Equal Pay Act 1970, as amended, did not enable the employers to avoid the application of an equality clause to the pension contribution arrangements they had made for the employees.

On October 5, 1979, the appeal had been stayed under Order 114, rule 4, of the Rules of the Supreme Court for questions to be referred to the European Court of Justice including the question whether an employer's contributions to a retirement benefit scheme were "pay" within the meaning of article 119 of the EEC Treaty.

Article 119 provides: "... 'pay' means the ordinary basic or minimum wage or salary and any other consideration, whether in cash or in kind, which the worker receives, directly or indirectly, in respect of his employment from his employer".

Mr David Hunter, QC, and Mr Charles Benner for the bank; Mr Anthony Lester, QC, and Mr Christopher Carr for the employees.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the bank provided two occupational pension schemes for the permanent staff, one for men and one for women but there was a difference between the two.

Men were required to contribute 5 per cent of their salary from the beginning of their employment and those under 25 received an additional salary of 5 per cent equal to their contribution, whereas women under 25 paid no contributions. As men leaving before completing five years' service or reaching 26 got their contributions back, with interest but subject to deductions, they got benefits not available to women in the same position.

Questions were referred to the European Court who answered by saying that a contribution to a retirement benefits scheme which was paid by the employer in the name of the employees by means of an addition to the gross salary and which helped to determine the amount of that salary was "pay" within the meaning of article 119.

In view of that answer the case had come back and the parties had agreed upon a declaration.

Accordingly the court would make a declaration that pursuant to the equality clause included in the employees' contracts of employment by reason of section 1(1) of the Equal Pay Act 1970, as amended, and pursuant to article 119 of the EEC Treaty, on terminating their employment with the bank, the employees were entitled to be paid a sum of money equal in amount to the refund of pension contributions in respect of the period referred to in section 2(5) of the Act which they would have received if they had been male employees employed on like work in whose name contributions had been paid to a retirement pension scheme by the bank (subject to statutory and other lawful deductions).

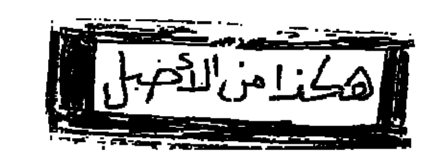
As the women had succeeded they should have their costs.

Lord Justice Shaw agreed.

LORD JUSTICE TEMPLEMAN also agreeing said that the European Court said that article 119 of the Treaty could be relied upon before the national courts.

Solicitors: Mr Geoffrey N. Johnson; Lawford & Co.





Frost threatens Christmas sprouts supply

By Robin Young, Consumers Affairs Corresponent

There is bad news about Christmas dinner. If the cold weather continues, Brussels sprouts, which most Britons regard as an essential garnish to turkey or goose, will be missing.

The demand for Brussels sprouts, always a staple winter vegetable in Britain, trebles at Christmas. It is conservatively estimated that five out of six British families feature nobbly sprouts on their Christmas Day menu.

Hard frosts have cut supplies by a quarter, and with temperatures as low as —12° C in the fields, some growers have been harvesting completely frozen crops. Sprouts are frost-proof while growing, but if picked when frozen they deteriorate speedily.

"You can smell them going *off*", one New Covent Garden trader said at the market yesterday. Britain is an *exporter but* not an *importer* of sprouts, so no replenishment is available elsewhere. Prices are already up to 30p a pound, and only a prolonged mild spell, will avert a critical shortage at Christmas.

This is not a happy season for cauliflowers either. Supplies, from England, France, and the Channel Isles, are also scarce, costing up to 70p each. On the other hand there is plenty of cabbage, possibly a dull alternative.

Swedes and turnips are also plentiful and of excellent quality. One suggestion from the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Information Bureau is that with carrots, onions, and leeks these might be baked to a vegetable clafouti, a sort of trendy Woolton pie, made with Yorkshire pudding batter.

Christmas supplies of Spanish satsumas, clementines and navel oranges are also threatened. Large shipments are trapped in the French channel ports by a road transport bottleneck exacerbated by the bad weather. Despite a shorter crop, satsumas are still at about the same price as last year, 24p to 30p a pound.

Apple prices are up between 5p and 10p a pound on last year, with English Coxes from 25p and French Golden Delicious from 20p a pound. There are also amazing varieties of bright and shiny red apples imported from north America.

Mixed nuts are good value, a shortage of Brazils and walnuts being compensated by a good crop of Filberts and almonds.

There is also a wider range of exotica available than ever before. Those who miss their sprouts can compensate with lychees, kumquats, prickly pears, sharon fruit, Catalan salad, which looks like overgrown dandelions, and radiccio, Italian red lettuces.

A private head for government agency

By David Walker

The next chief executive of the Property Services Agency will be a private manager, Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretarty of State for the Environment, has told his senior officials at a private meeting.

Recruiting someone from the private sector to such a senior position was not, he said, to doubt civil sevants' talents and energies. Rather, the agency, the organization that lets most government building contracts and administers the vast estate of goverment buildings, "would benefit from exposure to private sector ways.

"What I would like to see", he said at meetings at the Department of the Environment, "is an injection of something only a prtivate sector man can provide".

However, Mr Heseltine reassured his civil servants that despite the government's interest in tighter management and its desire to switch responsiblity back to the private sector, they were a national asset.

"The role of the Civil Service is much misunderstood. To listen to or read a wide range of comment one would draw a conclusion that it is some avoidable and extravagant overhead

Mr Heseltine said his civil servants made a "remarkable and indispensble contribution to the working of a civilized society".



Lending an ear: From left, Lord Snowdon, president of the International Year of Disabled People, Mr Kenneth Robinson, chairman of the Arts Council, Mr Paul Channon, Arts Minister, and Mr Frank McLoughlin listening yesterday to the new "induction loop" system at the Wigmore Hall, London, designed to help the hard of hearing who use conventional hearing aids.

Cost of the NHS rises to £240 a head

By Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Correspondent

Spending on the National Health Service costs £240 a year for every man, woman and child in the United Kingdom, according to statistics published today. This is three times as high in real terms as when the service was first established. In 1949 it cost £8.75 a head, or £79 at 1981 prices.

Hospital services take the lion's share (63 per cent), with family doctors accounting for only 6.2 per cent and community services (health visitors, community nurses and midwives) absorbing 6 per cent.

Hospital doctors are the fastest growing group in the service, having increased by 3.1 per cent a year over the past five years, compared with an annual increase of 2.8 per cent for administrators, 1.7 per cent for family doctors and 1.4 per cent for nurses.

Hospital nurses are the largest group, accounting for 37 per cent of the one million people employed.

The health service absorbs about 6 per cent of the gross national product against 5.5 per cent in 1975, 4.1 per cent in 1965 and 3.6 per cent in 1955.

The analysis, carried out by the Office of Health Economics, which is funded by the pharmaceuticl industry, shows that the rate of growth of the service is slowing. It grew by 4.3 per cent between 1960 and 1970 but by only 3 per cent a year in 1976-81.

Compared with other western countries, Britain continues to spend relatively little on the service. The office's latest international data (for 1979) shows that France spends 7.2 per cent of its gross national product on health and the United States 9 per cent.

The analysis, carried out by the Office of Health Economics, which is funded by the pharmaceutical industry, shows that the rate of growth of the service is slowing down. It grew by 4.3 per cent a year between 1960 and 1970 but by only three per cent a year in the five years 1976-81.

Compendium of Health Statistics, for the Edition.

Office of Health Economics, 12 Whitehall, London, SW1A 2DY, £12).

Indefinite detention for £1m arsonist

From Our Correspondent
York

John Daysley, aged 18, an arsonist who stood and laughed as an incomplete £1m office complex burnt to the ground, was ordered at York Crown Court yesterday to be detained indefinitely in a high security mental hospital.

Judge Harry Bennett told Daysley, of the Boulevard, Hill, "You are a danger to yourself and the public in general".

Mr Paul Miller, for the prosecution, told the court that the youth, who was fascinated by fire, reduced a five-storey complex in the centre of Hull to ashes with a match after breaking in to steal tools.

Daysley told police: "I don't know why I did it, but it made me feel good and gave a feeling of happiness. I lit some wood shavings on the floor and watched the flames dancing about. It made me feel great."

Within minutes the fire spread to piles of timber being used in the construction work and Daysley left to watch the fire from a neighbouring street before walking home.

Daysley, who admitted arson, burglary and theft, was arrested two weeks later in a stolen car. He broke down under questioning

Dr Peter Watson-Wood, a psychiatrist who examined Daysley, told the judge that he was suffering from a psychopathic disorder.

'Cured' man attacked housewife

From Our Correspondent,
Nottingham

A former Rampton patient kidnapped a young wife and tried to rape her at knifepoint less than a year after doctors had declared him cured of a psychiatric disorder.

Rodney Harrison, aged 31, was jailed for 14 years by Nottingham Crown Court yesterday after admitting abduction and attempted rape.

Mr Justice Beldam expressed concern at the case and called for an investigation into how Harrison obtained the knife.

It was the third time Harrison, of Keighley, West Yorkshire, had threatened a woman with a knife. The first was in Leeds in 1969, and in May, 1970, he was sent to Rampton top security hospital for twice raping a pregnant housewife.

Last January doctors considered him cured and allowed him out on a rehabilitation course at Balderton psychiatric hospital, near Newark. But in October he grabbed a housewife and forced her to drive 20 miles with a knife at her neck and breast.

Miss Heather Swindells, for the prosecution, said Harrison ordered the woman to stop and tied her hands behind her back. "He removed the lower part of her clothing, forced her to have oral sex three times, and tried to rape her.

At this point he seemed to come to his senses. He apologized and allowed her to get dressed."

Victimized teacher gets £5,750

From Our Correspondent
Sheffield

Miss Mary Fahy, a former senior school mistress, who claimed she became the victim of a five-year victimization campaign after complaining that her headmaster drank on duty, has recovered £5,750 in compensation. Last month Miss Fahy, aged 55, won her claim for unfair dismissal at an industrial tribunal in Sheffield.

The tribunal found she had been unfairly dismissed from her teaching job at St Bernard's Roman Catholic School, Rotherham, and adjourned the case for compensation to be settled.

The parties have agreed compensation privately and yesterday Mr Mark Thomas, Miss Fahy's solicitor, confirmed that Rotherham Education Authority had agreed to pay £5,750.

During the tribunal hearing Miss Fahy, a teacher for 33 years, was alleged to have complained about Mr James O'Connor, her headmaster, drinking on duty, which led to the campaign.

Finally Mr O'Connor took away her classes and gave them to other teachers. He also relieved her of pastoral duties. As a senior mistress she claimed she was in effect dismissed by Mr O'Connor and forced into early retirement in October last year, after being driven to the point of a nervous breakdown.

The tribunal was also told that Miss Fahy was unable to control classes

Families £22 poorer under Bill, TUC says

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

Families could lose up to £22 a week under the Government's plan to switch responsibility for sick pay from the state to employers, according to TUC calculations. In a briefing urging trade unionists to campaign against the plan, the TUC argues that employers will also suffer from heavier financial and administrative burdens.

The plan is one of the two main proposals in the Social Security and Housing Benefits Bill, now in standing committee in the Commons.

It would make employers responsible for paying a flatrate benefit for the first eight weeks of sickness for employees now covered by national insurance sickness benefit, which pays extra for dependent spouses and children.

At present benefit levels, the new employer's statutory sick pay scheme (ESSP) would pay a flat-rate benefit of £37 a week, irrespective of family circumstances. TUC calculations suggest that the proposed level would leave even single people worse off in real terms than in November, 1979.

Taking inflation since 1979, into account the TUC says the proposed £37 flat rate would mean £3.37 a week less for a single person if it was paid now. For a married couple the loss would be £17.91 a week, and for a married couple with two children the loss would be £22.23 a week.

All the figures are based on people receiving sickness benefit plus the maximum earnings related supplement in November, 1979.

The TUC says disabled and elderly workers would find it harder to obtain and keep jobs. Unscrupulous employers would have more opportunities to harass and victimize workers, and the reduction in their contributions would mean an overall loss to the national insurance fund.

Death ride on motorbike

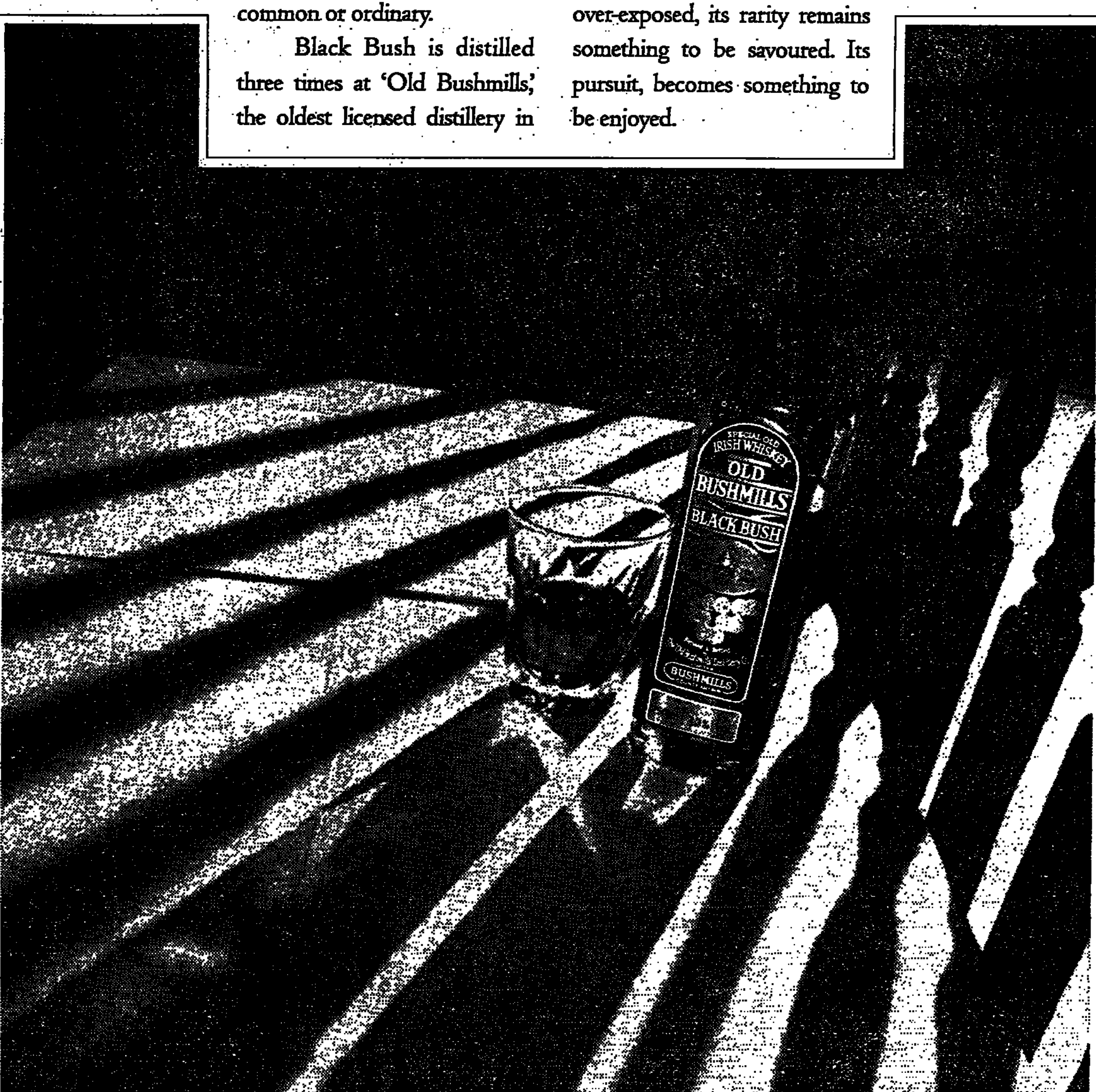
Two joyriders died when they crashed on a stolen motor cycle while being chased at high speed by the police, an inquest at Liverpool was told yesterday.

The youngsters, who were unemployed, lost control of the 750cc machine as they took a bend at 80mph last October. David Emery, aged 13, was killed on impact and Anthony Jones, aged 17, the pillion passenger, died later in hospital from head injuries.

A police patrol car saw them breaking the 30mph limit and gave chase. Police Constable Raymond Clark, who was driving, said: "I switched on the revolving blue light and flashed at the motor cycle, indicating it to stop. But the pillion passenger looked round the the motor cycle increased its speed." It was clear an accident was inevitable.

Mr Edward Emery, aged 38, of Scarisbrick Road, Norris Green, Liverpool, told the hearing that David, the eldest of his eight children, had been in trouble with motoring offences.

Mr Tony Ensor, Merseyside deputy coroner, recording verdicts of misadventure, said that the police officers had not acted in any way unreasonably in chasing the youths.





NEWS IN SUMMARY

MPs clash with party postponed

Showdown between the Labour MP, Mr Albert Duffy, and his constituency party over claims that he collaborated with the management of a firm planning to make 80 workers redundant, has been put off until after Christmas.

The dispute flared after alleged tape recordings of a telephone conversation between Mr Duffy, MP for Sheffield, Attercliffe, and Mr Brian McAteer, managing director of Davy Instruments, of Darnall, Sheffield, were passed to union officials.

The tapes are alleged to show Mr Duffy to be siding with the Management and undermining union action to save jobs. Attercliffe Labour Party is to discuss the matter at a special meeting on January 30.

Redundancy is not 'sacking'

"Sacked" is an inappropriate word to describe redundancy, the Press Council repeated today.

It upheld a complaint by Mrs C. D. Tucker, of Rayner's Lane, Harrow, Middlesex, that having published a headline which implied that Mrs Tucker who had been made redundant, had been "sacked", the editor of the *Harrow Observer* failed to publish a correction and apology.

New face at helm of 'TLS'



Mr Jeremy Treglown, aged 35, who is taking over as the editor of *The Times Literary Supplement* in succession to Mr John Gross next month.

Mr Treglown, who is now assistant editor at the *TLS*, taught English literature at Lincoln College, Oxford, and University College London before entering journalism. He has also made his mark as an actor and "raped" the actress Jane Birkin in the film *Il Amante in Blue Jeans*.

Third time unlucky

Pensioners at St Clement's Court, Farnborough, Hampshire, have had their Christmas tree cut down by vandals for the third successive year. A local garden centre has offered to replace it.

A new life at 90

Mr Ted Waldridge, of Ipswich, is planning to emigrate at the age of 90. He is going to live with his daughter in Perth, Australia, where he expects to arrive on Christmas Day.



Shaggy llama story: Mr Frank Bailey feeding some of his herd of eight llamas, native home South America, on his farm in Dorset. The herd started with two animals and even reached 13 before some were sold. Llama wool is used to make capes and hats in the specialist woollen trade.

Joseph's doubt on 16-plus exam

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

The future of the proposed single examination system for pupils aged 16, which is meant to replace CSE and O levels, is in doubt. The Government's commitment to introducing the new examination seems to be weakening.

It is nearly two years since Mr Mark Carlisle, the former Secretary of State for Education and Science, announced that the Government had decided to go ahead with a single 16-plus examining system. No date was given for its introduction, but it was generally expected that it would be in about 1985 or 1986.

However, Sir Keith Joseph, the new Sectetary of State, is not yet convinced of the merits of the new examination. Like Mr Rhodes Boyson, minister responsible for schools, who is strongly opposed to the new examination, he is particularly worried about the effect on recognized O level standards and about the feasibility of having a single system of examining at all for such a wide ability range of pupils in subjects like mathematics.

The Government had hoped to publish a document last October, possibly in the form of a White Paper, explaining in greater detail plans for the new examination and setting a firm introduction date. However, Sir Keith's hesitation has so far prevented that.

A draft "descriptive document" may be sent out for comment to examination boards in January, before the publication of a public document. Whether even that will happen depends on decisions that Sir Keith is expected to take over the next few days.

The all-party Commons Select Committee on Education and Science, which has just finished its report on the school curriculum and examinations for pupils aged 14 to 16, has come out firmly in favour of a single system of examining at 16-plus. However, it recommends that it should be for all pupils and not just for these in the top 60 per cent of the ability range, as proposed.

It is understood that two of the five Conservatives on the committee, Mr Timothy Brinton, MP for Gravesend, and Mr John Osborn, MP for Sheffield, Hallam, voted against the introduction of the new examination.

The select committee recommends that the national criteria on the content, aims and methods assessment, for new examination should be laid down by a reconstituted Central Advisory Council for Education and not by the Secretary of State, as proposed.

It also recommends that the Schools Council should continue with its present role and functions for school examinations and development of the curriculum. Mr Brinton and Mr Osborn are understood to have voted against that recommendation as well. The select committee's report is not expected until February.

Specialist teacher associations have criticised the proposed draft national criteria for the new 16-plus examination, which have been drawn up by subject working parties of the joint council of the CGE and CSE examination boards.

The latest criticism comes from the association for Science Education, which said in a statement issued yesterday that while it welcomes the Government's proposals for a common examination at 16-plus, it finds the present haste worrying.

The proposals offered "little or nothing" which the average citizen would find worthwhile in his or her general education, "and if the proposals are adopted they could well produce further alienation from science", it adds.

CND 'puts people in danger'

By Lucy Hodges

The ability to protect civilians in wartime is worse than at any time since the 1930s and is a national scandal, the National Council for Civil Defence says in a report published today.

It blames the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament for its opposition to civil defence which, it says, has led to more than 100 local authorities refusing to take part in next year's Hard Rock defence exercise.

CND has campaigned against civil defence, saying that it gives people a false sense of security and makes war more likely because people will think they can survive.

Today's report adds that Labour's sucesses in gaining control of local authorities makes it more difficult for the Government's new measures to be implemented, but says the record of Conservative councils is not much better.

Cuts have prevented them from expanding emergency planning teams and improving the local wartime headquarters, as suggested by the Home Secretary.

The report, by Mr Edward Leigh, the civil defence council's chairman, says expanded emergency planning teams were to have been the lynchpin of the new programme, but only Hertfordshire had made a substantial increase.

It says staffing level figures for metropolitan areas show "that just 55 men and women are expected to handle all aspects of peacetime emergency and wartime emergency planning for more than 18,500,000 people".

In Tyneside one person would look after 1,100,000 people. "If war were to occur, then it would indeed be true to say that never in the field of human conflict would so much be expected by so many of so few."

Mr Leigh says civil defence preparations make sense on purely humanitarian grounds. "Ironically, the mythical insistence of the enemies of civil defence that large numbers would not survive a nuclear attack, maximizes the likelihood of this prophecy coming true — for want of the very preparations which would otherwise have been taken."

The report says CND activists have been putting Home Office leaflets through a pulping machine and that Derbyshire's Labour authority relieved its chief executive of his job as wartime controller

The council urges the Home Office to use its powers to force recalcitrant local anthorities to carry out adequate civil defence planning.

□ County councillors in Mid Glamorgan yesterday declaired their area a nuclear free zone, then immediately accepted a £389,000 tender for an emergency shelter to be used in case of war (Tim Jones writes from Cardiff).

Leaders of the Labour-controled council failed to explain what is inside the centre, on a Bridgend industrial estate.

QC demands prison for a silent journalist

Sir Michael Havers, QC, the Attorney-General, asked two High Court judges to jail Gilbert Jack Lundin, of *The Observer*, for refusing to answer questions on the source of a document when giving evidence in a criminal trial.

Mr Lundin is contesting the case before Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Glidewell. He denied contempt of court.

Mr Desmond Fennell, QC, for the Attorney-General, said Mr Lundin was called as a witness at the trial of Police Sergeant Brian Cawston at Nottingham Crown Court last June.

He refused to answer a question on the source of a document

Mr Lundin had refused twice to answer the question put to him by counsel. On a third occasion he refused to answer when the question was put to him by Mr Justice Webster, the trial judge.

The hearing continues today.

The action by the Attorney-General was the third this week against newspapermen. Judgment is expected today or on Monday in his application for jail orders or other penalties against Sir John Junor, editor of the *Sunday Express*, and Mr David English, editor of the *Daily Mail* over reports published at the time of the Down's syndrome baby trial.

'More black candidates' call to Foot

By a Staff Reporter

An organization of black councillors has written to Mr Michael Foot, leader of the Labour Party, to protest at the "chronic record" of local Labour parties in choosing blacks as parliamentary candidates.

Mr Russell Profitt, a black councillor in Lewisham, failed recently to be shortlisted for the Labour prospective candidature in Peckham, London. Miss Harriet Harman, legal officer of the National Council for Civil Liberties, has won that nomination.

The letter, from the Standing Conference of Afro-caribbean and Asian Councillors, *says that it is very concerned* about the lack of support for black candidates in areas where the party normally stands a good chance

"I am sure you must realize that should such a state of affairs continue, many black and Asian electors would find it extremely difficult to continue to support the Labour Party", Mr Karamata Hussein, chairman of the standing conference, says.

An institute of London University has been found to have discriminated against an Asian by not considering him properly for promotion and has been ordered to pay £100 in compensation by an industrial tribunal.

The tribunal was not satisfied that the Institute of Neurology, Queen Square, Bloomsbury, had reasonable grounds for deciding that Mr Riaz Khan lacked the supervisory skills for chief of the chemical pathology laboratory.

From yesterday's later editions

More people are watching TV more, BBC says

On an average day last year about 42 million people, more than 80 per cent of the population, watched at least some television, according to the BBC's annual review of research findings.

It confirms the increased trend in viewing over the past decade, with the amount of viewing each week averaging just under 18.25 hours a person, against the highest level recorded recently.

Tariq Ali admitted

Hornsey constituency Labour Party, in north London, decided on Wednesday night to grant membership to Mr Tariq Ali. On Tuesday the party's national executive committee had endorsed the recommendation of its organization committee that he should not be admitted to membership.

Mr Ali, a former International Marxist Group member, had appealed to Hornsey to hear his membership application after it had been rejected by Crouch End, his local ward on Monday.

Driver must pay £1,000 to PC

A disqualified driver who ran down and broke both legs of a policeman who tried to stop him five years ago was ordered yesterday to pay him £1,000.

Nicholas Kehoe, who now lives in Germany, was also given an 18-month jail sentence, suspended for two years, after being found guilty at St Albans Crown Court of wanton driving.

Homosexual conviction is quashed by Army Board

From Our Correspondent, Colchester

A soldier convicted by court martial of a homosexual offence has had both conviction and sentence quashed in a race move by the Army Board.

The board gave no reason for their decision on an appeal by Private Peter Biggs, aged 22, of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps, serving with 7 Field Force at Colchester.

But an Eastern District spokesman said: "It is most unusual for the army board to overturn completely conviction and sentence".

Private Biggs was sentenced by a court martial at Colchester last October of "disgraceful conduvt of an indecent kind".

He was said to have taken part in a homosexual act with another soldier in barracks at Osnabruck, West Germany.

The court was told, that Private Biggs had admitted the offence to Army investigators.

In court he denied the offence and said he had only made the admissions because he expected to be discharged from the Army for other offences.

Private Biggs said that at the time of the alleged offence he had been too drunk to know if anything else happened.

An Army spokesman said last night that a solier had a right to appeal to the Army Board the Army's ruling body, if he was disatisfied with the findings of a court martial. In this case it had overturned the conviction. Private Biggs was free to resume his service career with an unblemished record.

Euro-MPs vote for higher budget spending

From George Clark, Strasbourg, Dec 12

The European Council of finance ministers has been summoned to an urgent meeting in Brussels next week to try to resolve a dispute which has arisen between them and the European Parliament about the size and purpose of the EEC budget for 1982.

When he addressed the Parliament in Strasbourg today after it had refused to approve the Council's spending plans, Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, said it was one of the outstanding problems which remained at the end of Britain's period of presidency.

Parliament had gone beyond what the Council had been prepared to agree. "I can only hope that we are not heading, for the third year running, towards a budget dispute", he said.

After a series of votes, lasting more than two hours, the European Parliament finished the morning session with its own amended budget figures. The MEPs requested that more money should be made available for the social and regional funds to help economic development in Community countries, and more should go out in development aid to deprived countries.

In fact, the parliamentarians had considerably reduced the demands they made in November. Today's total of extra demands came to £131m in commitments, compared with the earlier figure of £193m, and £116m in payments, compared with £182m.

Against the background of a total budget of about £12,034m in commitments, and £11,381m in payments, the difference did not seem likely to lead to any great confrontation, and there is a period of several weeks during which the Council may make concessions.

Members of the European Democratic (conservative) group led the forces of moderation. Their spokesmen said afterwards that they had hoped Parliament would have shown more restraint.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, speaking for the Council of Ministers, said he would urgently consult his colleagues to find out whether they would agree to the new maximum. Parliament would be informed of the results. On the 1981 budget. He said the council agreed with Parliament's request for an extra £32m for social measures to help steel workers.

Some members of Parliament recently involved in negotiations with the ministers complained about what they considered the ministers' stubborn attitude. They said that some countries, notably Western Germany and France, who had called for more to be spent on economic development, were opposed to higher spending when it came to a decision.

There is also a continuing argument about the classification of expenditure, which affects Parliament's powers to influence spending. Signor Altiero Spinelli, the Italian communist who is rapporteur for the budget's committee, said:

"The whole mechanism for negotiations with the Council is absolutely crazy and a diabolic invention which really obliges the Parliament and the Council to fight." It had to be changed for it could only lead to a repetition of the pitiful scenes witnessed in the past few weeks.

Herr Erwin Lange, the West German Socialist, who was responsible for piloting the budget through Parliament, said it was "just a patchwork quilt". It gave no idea about the way the Community was going to develop. In the "mandate" discussions, the European Commission must make proposals to change the system.

One of the main points of disagreement is Parliament's decision to increase by £15m the amount allocated for aid to the poorest of the poor countries.

East wind hits Paris motion of censure

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Dec 17

The debate on a motion of censure against the economic policy of the French government, was robbed of much of its impact by the dramatic situation in Poland. Some Opposition speakers appreciated this and included in their condemnation of the Government its "timid, honeyed, and almost shameful" stand — to quote one Giscardian member — on the Polish crisis, inevitably the motion was lost owing to the usual massive Government majority of 244 votes to 151. It was the third the Opposition has tabled against the Government since the left took power seven months ago.

Poland provides the Opposition with a heaven-sent opportunity to point out the internal contradictions of the left which it has revealed.

"We might have agreed to withdraw this motion in a gesture of national unity," M Claude Labbe, the chairman of the Gaullist parliamentary party, said. "But your attitude towards the Polish crisis convinced us to go ahead with it. We do not want the icy wind of Warsaw to blow on France tomorrow," he states.

"How many dead will be required to cause the dismissal of the Cmmunist ministers?" M Jacques Godfrain, the Giscardian proposer of the motion, asked the Prime Minister. "You are promoting the class struggle when the Poles themselves reject it."

The Government and its majority naturally reacted strongly to what M Georges Sarre, the leader of the Socialist group in the Paris Council, described as "the shocking exploitation by the Opposition for domestic political ends of the tragedy the Polish people is experiencing at present. The Opposition is the prey of a phantasm: to divide the left, and to achieve this, everything goes".

M André Labarrère, the Minister in charge of relations with Parliament, insisted that what bothered the Opposition was that "in the final analysis, you do not care two hoots about the Poles. What you are trying to do is to use them for an internal political operation".

Under the circumstances, the defence of the Government's economic record by M Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, almost went unnoticed. "Economic recovery is at hand. The increase in unemployment is falling. The rise in prices is slowing down. The expansion of agriculture is ensured. The means of coping with delinquency are at hand.

"Gaullism, which can no longer survive, and liberalism, which is discredited, are compelled to borrow their ideas from a few extreme right-wing activists.

"When the right wants to renew itself, it draws from the anti-egalitarian and anti-Christian arsenal of ideas which in the first half of this century, produced the catastrophes we know. It would be serious if through mere hostility to the Government's policy, democrats allowed themselves to be taken in by false new ideas," the Prime Minister added.

Court told of order to kill whites

From Stephen Taylor Salisbury, Dec 17

A murder trial in which a woman spirit medium is alleged to have incited her followers to murder white Zimbabweans continued today with evidence by a former Minister of Health that he had consulted her for medical advice.

But Dr Herbert Ushewokunze, who was dismissed from the Cabinet in October, denied that he had been informed of murders by two former guerrillas who are alleged to have been acting on the medium's orders, or that he had discussed the killings with her

He was giving evidence for the defence at the trial of Miss Sophie Muchini, who had attracted a cult following in the indigenous religion of the Shona people and claimed to be the reincarnation of a revolutionary *nanga* who led the first *rebellion against* white settlers in 1896.

Miss Muchini, aged 44, has denied exhorting former guerrillas who came to her to be exorcized of the spirit of killing to murder four white farmers in the Fort Victoria district because "their farms were on the soil of the chilkdren of Zimbabwe".

Two of her followers who are under sentence of death have told the court that after killing Mr Abraham Roux and his wife Margaret in March on Miss Muchini's orders they had gone to Salisbury, again at her behest, to tell the Minister.

Air France flies into union storm

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, Dec 17

The board of Air France today decided to buy the 12 Boeing 737 airliners which the airline has insisted for years that it needs for its low density traffic, especially on some medium-distance services in Europe.

French flying personnel, especially flight engineers and their unions, have consistently objected to the purchase of the Boeings because they insist that all airliners must carry a pilot, co-pilot and a flight engineer. Elsewhere 737s are flown with a pilot and co-pilot only.

Now the unions have given notice of a strike on December 22 and 23, which, if it goes ahead, will cause chaos with holiday traffic, especially Paris-London flights.

FINAL RESULTS IN MALTA POLL

Valletta. — Final results of last weekend's Maltese elections showed that Mr Dom Mintoff's victorious Labour Party was outpolled by more than 5,000 votes by its Nationalist rival.

The Maltese Electoral Commission presented the final tally to President Anton Buttigieg, showing that Mr Mintoff's party won 109,990 votes, while Mr Eddie Fenech-Adami's Nationalist Party got 114,132. But Labour retained its 34 seats in the 65-seat Parliament.

Czech authorities try to crush church

From David Blow, Vienna, Dec 17

Security police are now thought to have been responsible for the mysterious deaths in Czechoslovakia this year of two Catholic Activists, members of the "underground" or "catacomb church.

On October 10 the body of Pavel Svejda, aged 20, was found at the foot of a crevasse near his home city of Brno. The authorities said it was suicide but refused to allow his relatives to see the body before it was buried. Mr Svejda, who was due to get married two weeks later, was known as a devout Christian and had just returned from Rome where he had visited his uncle. A Jesuit theologian at the Gregorian University.

Earlier, in February, Premysl Coufal, aged 49, was found dead in his apartment in Bratislava. On this occasion friends managed to trick the authorities into letting them see the body. They found the face and forehead heavily bruised. The left ear torn and a deep wound by the temples. Mr Coufal had also been to Rome shortly before his death and is thought to have been ordained there.

The "underground", church in Czechoslovakia has become the target of brutal repression by the authorities. A special unit of the security police is even said to have been set up to deal with it.

The declining numbers of officially authorized priests are expected to confine the activities to the performance of church ritual, and are firmly discouraged from any more active role in the community.

It is this deliberate attempt ot squeeze the life out of the Catholic Church that has given rise to the "underground" church.

There areas many as 500 secretly ordained priests striving to keep the Catholic faith alive by organizing prayer meetings ans bible readings.

Anyone found to be involved in these activities is liable to be severely punished.

Such trials are becoming increasingly frequent and there are now over 100 priests in prison.

Baby blood traces found in pastor's car

From Douglas Aiton, Melbourne, Dec 17

Human foetal or baby blood was found in a car owned by Mr Michael Chamberlain, a pastor of the Seventh Day Advetist Church, and his wife, a forensic biologist told an inquest in Alice Springs today. Blood of foetal origin was also on a pair of scissors and a yellow towel found in the car the biologist, Mrs Joy Kuhl, said.

Mr Gerry Calvin, the coroner, is holding a new inquest on Azaria, a baby of nine weeks, who disappeared at Ayers Rock in August last year. Today is the fourth day of the inquest.

Mrs Kuhl, employed by the New South Wales Health Department, was giving evidence of examinations she made on items taken out of the car and on tests she made on the inside of the car.

She first examined a pair of scissors. "I found the presence of blood on the hinge area and there was a small deposit of blood around the handle and the inside cutting edge," she said. Experiments I caried out showed that the blood was of human foetal origin. Mrs Kuhl believed the blood was from a child aged less than six months. She also examined the carpet in the front passenger seat of the car and it showed blood stains. There were also samples of blood flakes under the passenger seat.

A key witness in the new inquest arrived in Darwin today from London. Professor James Cameron, a leading forensic expert, later left for Alice Springs. He is expected to give evidence tomorrow.

East wind hits Paris motion of censure

Carrington complains of EEC indecisiveness

From Ian Murray, Strasbourg, Dec 17

A frustrated Lord Carrington stood before the European Parliament this afternoon to complain about the increasing difficulties of getting decisions from the European institutions.

As President of the Council of Ministers for the past six months the Foreign Secretary was reporting on the work achieved since he took the chair. His report, had it been written by a schoolmaster, would have read: "Tried hard, but could have done better."

It showed there had been failure to get a decision on four of the most important issues Britain had tried to resolve: a fishing policy, an insurance directive, cheaper air fares and, most important of all, a new budgetary mechanism for the Community.

On the credit side, however, he was able to report success in 66 different areas, from sewage sludge treatment, through help for the disabled to bringing into force the third international cocoa agreement. They were listed in a 19-page document issued today reporting the achievements of the presidency.

The four issues where the presidency failed accounted for Lord Carrington's obvious frustration. They made up what he called the dark side of the picture of the presidency. It was, he said, not to the Community's credit that it had failed to reach agreement on the budget reforms.

He was particularly scathing about the breakdown of negotiations on the telecommunications market. "To their discredit," he said, "the foreign ministers have been unable to agree . . . . because of disagreement over one word."

He pointed out to the parliament that it too had been guilty of hindering the decision process that very day in voting for a 1982 budget in excess of that allowed by community rules.

"The paradox which the community needs to resolve is that in these times of political and economic uncertainty it seems to be becoming necessary, to get decisions.

"We have tried to demonstrate the tenacity and endurance which are needed in every presidency, but even they are not enough if there is no common will to reach conclusions, and that is what I fear has been too often lacking in our deliberations."

Nevertheless, he was proud to be able to report that "progress has been encouraging, particularly in areas such as the environment, social policy and energy policy". Although important things remained to be done "I have no doubt whatever that we can find solutions," he said.

Lord Carrington's criticisms were largely aimed at failures to resolve internal problems. This was why he obviously so regretted the lack of success in finding a formula for budgetary reform.

"The Community can only advance and prosper if it is able to secure and retain the understanding and support of its citizens," he warned. "To do so it must show itself to be flexible enough to keep pace with a world of rapid change, and dynamic enough to offer a lead rather than simply responding to events."

He complained that "divergence among community states has increased rather than diminished" on economic affairs. He pounded out the British Government line that it was essential "to create the conditions for that non-inflationary growth which is the only source of durable employment. We must resist the easy but fatal options of protectionism."

If he was unhappy about progress within the community the same was not true in what he said about the Community's external relations during the British presidency.

He spent a good deal of his report on looking at the area of political cooperation, in which he has taken a particular interest. This was because of his firm belief that "the Community should exert an influence in world affairs more appropriate to its position".

He said proudly that he had found in third countries "A growing expectation that Europe will speak with one voice and a growing wish for a dialogue with the Ten as such".

He ran through areas in which he had been involved in taking the initiative on behalf of the council. In the Middle East, he said, "we have seen the pursuit of peace becoming more, not less complicated," especially by the Knesset decision to take over the Golan Heights, "an act which the governments of the Ten strongly deplore."

The Russians bore a heavy responsibility for the terrible suffering which they had caused the Afghan people, and they had to show the political will to remove their army from Afghanistan. He believed the European proposal for Soviet withdrawal was realistic and practical.



Father and son: A single teardrop rolls down the cheek of Jimmy Wilson after being reunited with his father Jay at a North Carolina bus station after 36 years. Jay last saw his son as a six-week-old baby.

Sana hopes to end rebellion

Two Yemens plan closer links

From Michael Knipe, Sana, North Yemen, Dec 17

The Government of North Yemen is hoping that a meeting in Aden earlier this month between its leader, President Ali Abdullah Saleh, and President Nasser Muhammad of South Yemen will end the guerrilla activities of the National Democratic Front (NDF) rebels in North Yemen.

The summit ended with agreement on plans for wide-ranging political and economic cooperation between the two ideologically opposed Yemen states. Aden radio quoted President Saleh as saying that if the agreement was fully implemented it would be the foundation of a united future.

A more cautious view is being expressed in Sana. "We might reach the opposite banks of a river", said one well-informed North Yemeni, "but the current will still be flowing fast between us."

With unity seen as a still remote prospect, the Sanaa Government's attention is fixed upon what it regards as the more immediate fruits of the cross-border negotiations — the chance of ending the rebellious actions of the NDF.

For several years this shadowy guerrilla organization has been a thorn in the flesh of the Sana authorities. It is believed to be composed mostly of left-wing political cadres form the Taiz region close to the border with South Yemen. They oppose what they regard as the conservative nature of the Sana Government and its links with the traditional northern shaikhdoms.

The NDF, with the support of some of the fiercely independent tribesmen in the border area who resent the authority of the central Government, spearheaded a brief war between North and South Yemen in 1979. Earlier this year spasmodic clashes were reported between the Front and the North Yemen Army and in January the Minister of Local Government was murdered as he drove from the Red Sea port of Hodeida to the capital.

The Sana Government's control of this mountainous tip of the Arabian peninsula is still tenuous. Tribesmen, loyal to local shaikhs and armed with ancient FM and Mauser rifles, maintain their own law and order. However, by gradually extending public services, such as schools and clinics, the central Government is slowly imposing its authority, if not its ability to raise taxes.

Extensive journeys to Taiz in the south and Marib in the east established that security checkpoints were lightly manned and relaxed in operation, indicating that rebel activity is fairly minimal.

The Government is convinced that the NDF has survived only because of the backing it has received from the Marxist Government in Aden and that this may be about to end.

According to Dr Abdul Karim Ali al-Irani, the North Yemen Prime Minister, President Muhammad of South Yemen has agreed to the publication of an agreement, reached a year earlier between the two governments, which states that neither side will support any military, political or press activity against the other.

"In other words, there will be strict adherance to good neighbourly relations", Dr Rani told a group of visiting British journalists.

It was well known, he said, that South Yemen had been a staging post for the Front and if the Aden Government ceased to provide a haven for the rebels, they would become an interior problem with which the Sanaa Government would have no difficulty in dealing.

The fact that the Aden Government is ready to make the agreement public and adhere to it, even though it was more than a year old was, said Dr Irani, a "most positive element".

For all the Prime Minister's enthusiasm, however, press reports of the summit emerging from Aden have made no mention of any pledge of non-belligerence and observers here are sceptical that the Aden Government will abandon the NDF completely.

Dr Irani said the next step in improving relations between the two Yemens would be to complete constitutional proposals for a united Yemeni state. Most of the elements had been agreed by joint committes tackling the details, but the final form of the proposed union was one of the issues that remained to be settled and it would be left to the two presidents.

Asked how the nogotiations were viewed by Saudi Arabia, Dr Irani said the Riyadh Government was in favour of anything that led to stability in the region and had always given Sanaa "a blank cheque" in that respect.

A united Yemen, he said, would be a non-aligned state, "but perhaps something in between where we are (non-aligned) and where they are (pro-Soviet)".

Clearly there are difficulties to be resolved and final agreement on unification of the two Yemens may still be a long way off.

Reagan makes history in Congress

From Bailey Morris
Washington, Dec 17

The ninety seventh Congress adjourned late last night after handing President Reagan two more victories in an historic first session dominated by unprecedented budget cuts and huge increases in defence spending.

In the rush to adjourn before Christmas, weary legislators debated into the night, finally agreeing just before midnight to give Mr Reagan a foreign aid programme and a new farm Bill very close to those he had asked for.

Not since the early years of the Lyndon Johnson Administration has a session of Congress been so dominated by a president who had requested and got a series of programmes which represent a fundamental change in the public policy of the United States.

Indeed, Mr Reagan issued a statement through his spokesman claiming seven major victories in the first session of the Congress which begins its second session on January 25.

As itemized by the White House, the victories include: Passage of the biggest defence budget in Americas history amounting to \$200,000m (about £111,000m); two rounds of unprecedented budget cuts totalling about \$40,000m; the first fully-authorized foreign aid programme in three years setting spending levels at \$11,500m; huge tax cuts amounting to more than \$400,000m; the sales of Awacs radar aircraft to Saudi Arabia, and a pared-down, stopgap spending measure for fiscal 1982 creating an additional \$4,000m in budget cuts.

It was a session that initiated a dramatic reversal of a half century of growth in social welfare programmes. Mr Howard Baker, of Tennessee, the Senate majority leader, summed it by saying: "It is a controversial congress; but I think almost no one will dispute that it has made more fundamental changes in public policy than any Congress in decades".

Only towards the end of the session, as the deepening recession in America began to bite, did Rebublicans and Democrats alike dig in their heels and fight Mr Reagan openly.

The one victory claimed by Democrats in the House last night was their successful effort to restore the minimum benefit of \$122 in social security funds for more that three million old people.

Battles over social programmes and Mr Reagan's economic policies will most certainly intensify in the second session when the President outlines his new year requests in the annual State of the Union speech scheduled for January 26.

This session of Congress has passed 10 of the 13 regular spending Bills to fund programmes for the 1982 fiscal year which began in October.

A little-noticed provision of the foreign aid package reduces American contribution, to the International Development Association, which makes the World Bank's soft loans. Congress voted about \$700m. Administration officials asked for \$850m.

NEW YORK DUSTMEN END STRIKE

From Michael Hamyln
New York, Dec 17

A tenative agreement hammered out in talks that lasted all through the night looks like ending the dustmen's strike that has filled rooftops and streets in the city with rubbish.

The agreement, which has to be ratified by a meeting of the striking Teamsters, came as city sanitation lorries each with a police escort started to pick up the 100,000 tons of rubbish that has been gently rotting in the winter's damp chill.

The strike has been against the private carters, who pick up rubbish from commercial premises — including restaurants, private hospitals, and offices — and not the municiple department, which services private households.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

First phase of arms talks end

The initial phase of the American-Soviet negotiations on intermediate-range nuclear weapons concluded with a sixth formal meeting, lasting 1hr 45mins, at the Soviet diplomatic mission. A communique said that after "the Christmas new year recess to permit the delegates to be with their families", meetings would resume on January 12.

While a news blackout has been in force since talks started on November 30, indications point to serious and difficult negotiations on reestablishing stability of deterrence. In the American perspective, this should be seen in conjuntion wiith the bilateral discussions on strategic intercontinental weapons expected to begin in March.

The United States has also underlined that any limitation agreement must incorporate provisions for stringent verification of compliance.

S Africa gets nuclear fuel

Paris. — South Africa has supplied enriched uranium to be turned into fuel elements in France for the first French-built South African nuclear power reactor, French company officials said.

The fuel elements will be used to start up South Africa's first nuclear power station at Koeberg, near Cape Town, 12 months from now. Framatome, leader of a French consortium building the station, said the plant had undergone successful circuit pressure tests and should go into industrial production in December, 1982.

"The South African Electricity Supply Commission has sent us a first consignment of enriched uranium which we are turning into fuel elements in accordance with our contract," M Jean-Claude Leny, Director-General of Framatome, said. "How South Africa obtained that uranium is none of our concern." The French Government has given Framatome permission to process it.

297 Released then arrested

Cario. — A total of 297 people were rearrested shortly after the prosecutor-general had dropped politcal charges against them, official sources said. The group described as "common criminals" by the Government, were rounded up again under the emergency law for constituting a "danger to national security".

They were among 1,563 people arrested under President Sadat's regime for alleged involvement in sectarian strife which left some 80 Christians and Muslims dead earlier this year.

Finnish Communists suspend Stalinists

Helsinki. — The Finnish Communist Party, third largest in Western Europe, faced a serious crisis after all its Stalinist members were suspended from the parliamentary group until the end of the parliamentary session, which means until March, 1983.

The 11 hardliners were dismissed from the group after they had voted against the draft budget of the Centre-left coalition government and against the decision of their parliamentary group.

Lagos fire deaths

Lagos. — The terms of an official investigating panel appointed by President Shehu Shagari of Nigeria appear to suggest that several lives may have been lost in Monday night's fire in Lagos which destroyed the Foreign Ministry and Ministries of Science and Technology and Information. Earlier reports had spoken of one dead.

China to aid Sudan

Khartum. — China will provide military assistance to Sudan, following a visit to Peking by General Abdul Masid Hamid Khalil, the First Vice-President.

Israeli hope grows for renewed Africa links

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, Dec 17

As speculation grows about an impending rapprochement between Israel and a number of black African states, Israel radio has reported that the government is now in contact with seven African governments with which it has no diplomatic ties.

Senior government officials refused to comment on the report, which comes after confirmation that Mr Ariel Sharon, the Defence Minister, recently made an unpublicized trip to four central African countries in an effort to promote a resumption of diplomatic relations.

Already President Mobutu of Zaire has said publicly that he is prepared to resume the ties broken in 1973, but only in concert with other black African governments.

Among those named in diplomatic circles here as possibilities are Gabon, and the Central African Republic.

Two main factors lie behind Israel's hope of an end to its diplomatic isolation in Africa: the growing threat to a number of pro-western African governments from Colonel Gaddafi of Libya; and next April's scheduled handback to Egypt of the remaining occupied third of Sinai.

In addition, senior Iasaeli sources have cited the recently signed strategic cooperation agreement with America and improved relations with the new French government of President Mitterrand as other influences favouring the expected rapprochement.

This dispatch was subject to military censorship.

PAKISTANIS INSIST ON ARMS RIGHT

From Hasan Akhtar
Islamabad, Dec 17

Pakistan has told India it will not forgo its sovereign right to acquire arms for defence. Official sources said today such a condition could not be accepted as the price of friendship.

Pakistan Foreign Ministry sources also categorically denied any arms build-up along the borders with India, and said conditions were normal there. It is understood that army field exercises are normal at this time.

Mr Shiv Raj Patil, Indian Minister of State for Defence, told Parliament in Delhi on December 16 he had protested against the alleged arms build-up in Pakistan. Such statements, the Pakistani sources said, tended to generate unnecessary tension.

They rejected the Indian protests against sales of American military equipment including F16 fighter aircraft, as baseless, pointing out that India already possesses a high performance aircraft including Jaguars, MiG23s and MiG25s.

Sabre-rattling conceals diplomacy

From Robert Fisk, Beirut, Dec 17

Claiming that the Middle East was on the brink of war after Israel's annexation of the occupied Golan Heights, Syria today called for an emergency meeting of Arab foreign ministers to discuss sanctions against Israel.

But the angry denunciations from Daascus and the warnings of an imminent conflict that are coming from Syrian officials are a facade.

Despite all the reports of troop build-ups along the ceasefire line that runs through the ruined village of Kineitra, sixty miles south of Damascus, the Syrians have not redeployed a single gun, lorry or tank on their side of the frontier since Israel announced the annexation of Golan on Monday.

According to official figures compiled by the United Nations Disengagement Observer force (Undof), the Syrians are even now maintaining only 60 per cent of their permitted military strength under the disengagement agreement around Kineitra.

The Israelis, it transpires, are also under their permitted strength along the truce lines. UN statistics show that they have redeployed some mechanized units that were thinned out in August and September this year. But, in the words of one senior UN officer, "The Israelis had been at 20 per cent capacity. Now they are back to about 80 per cent".

In layman's language, this means that — for the forseeable future — neither Israel nor Syria has the slightest intention of attacking each other across the Golan.

It does not, of course, rule out the possibility of a future conflict in Lebanon, the country which Syria has already chosed as its field of battle should a war with Israel become inevitable. But it does confirm American suspicions that Syria is in no mood to attack Israel and that its anger at the Golan annexation is likely to be continued through strictly diplomatic channels.

At a press conference in Damascus this afternoon Mr Iskander Ahmed Iskander, the Syrian Information Minister, stated clearly that Syria still adhered to the disengagement agreement which Dr Henry Kissinger negotiated when he was the United States Secretary of State between Damascus and Tel Aviv after the 1973 Middle East war.

Mr Iskander said that this "does not mean that we are not prepared to face any eventuality" and suggested that Syria would defend itself with courage and without hesitation if attacked. But Syria is far more interested in enlisting United States support for a United Nations Security Council resolution demanding that Israel rescind the Golan annexation.

If Israel rejects a Council resolution which declares the annexation null and void — and the Council has already begun its debate in New York — then Syria will press for sanctions against the Israelis.

"We hope the United States will take a position in the council that is compatible with its public stands," Mr Iskander commented. "We are waiting to see what the United States delegate will say when her turn comes to speak."

Asked if Syria still refused to recognize Israel, the Information Minister claimed that the question should be rephrased. "Would Israel recognize that neighbouring Arab Countries have a right to their internationally recognized boundaries?" he asked. "Would Israel recognize the existence of Palestinian people and their legitimate cause?"

Mr Iskander's bitterness at the annexation came out in some of his comments. If a war began between Syria and Israel, he said, "Syrian mothers will not be the only ones to cry."

This rhetoric was made more explicit in a long and somewhat extraordinary editorial in the Syrian English-language paper *Syria Times*. The paper compared Israel to Nazi Germany.

Evidently aware of how distasteful such comparisons are to the Israelis, the paper went on to draw parallels between present Middle East events and the rise of Hitler's Germany.

Armenian on trial

Geneva. — With armed police surrounding the building, the trial has opened of Mardiros Jamgotchian, aged 23, an Armenian accused of murdering a Turkish consulate official, last June.

From satellite to breakfast table

From Ross Waby, Chicago, Dec 17

Space technology has made it possible for the Gannett company, America's largest newspaper chain, to launch a national newspaper.

Gannett decided on Tuesday to risk up to \$100m (about £52m) on such a venture. *USA Today* is to become daily fare in 38 key cities around the country from late autumn next year.

The editorial, service, and advertising contents will be gathered together in Washington from the company's network of 85 newspapers, 13 radio stations, and seven television stations, and beamed to printing plants by signals bounced off a satellite.

"From our Earth station we will be able to transmit news, information, advertising and entertainment to an infinite number of satellite receiving stations around the country", said Mr Allen Neuharth, Gannett's chairman and president. Two prototypes of the newspaper were tested during the summer, and company sources said the response was encouraging.

The United States, because of its vastness and regional differences, does not have a national press like Britain. Only the *Wall Street Journal* and *The New York Times* approximate to a national press, and each has a specialized readership. Basically, the *Wall Street Journal* is for businessmen, and *The New York Times* is for transplanted and travelling New Yorkers.



The *National Observer* tried valliantly for 15 years to invade the mass market now being reconnoitred by Gannett before it folded in 1977.

USA Today will not be a pioneer in satellite transmission of its pages, because the *Wall Street Journal* has been doing it for five years.

Mr Neuharth has invested a considerable sum on the idea, preparation having begun in March 1980, when a task force of Gannett executives, employed by a new subsidiary, Gannett Satellite Information Network, began their research.

He is convinced that the American public has a voracious appetite for information, and he is concerned that it is not getting enough of the material gathered by the company's 4,168 journalists.

"Analysis indicates we now probably deliver to consumers only about 20 per cent of the news and information which we gather", he said.

Democracy defies the African sun to flourish in Senegal

From Godfrey Morrison, Dakar, Dec 17

Multiparty democracy has a very poor survival record south of the Sahara. Almost everywhere it has withered in the African sun, to be replaced by military or single-party civilian rule. But in Senegal it flourishes.

With the official recognition last week of the Senegalese Popular Party (PPS), which wants to replace French as the official language with Wolof, the country now has 11 political parties.

Unlike Nigeria and Ghana, where civilian pluralism was revived after violent coups and lengthy periods of military rule, in Senegal it has been peacefully conceded by a civilian establishment which has ruled the country unchallenged since independence from France two decades ago.

First moves to democratize political life here were taken by President Leopold Senghor who in the past five years legalized three opposition parties and then surprised everybody by voluntarily retiring at the end of last year, to be succeeded by Mr Abou Diouf, a former top civil servant and then Prime Minister.

Now President Diouf bestrides the Senegalese political scene not simply because he is the world's tallest head of state — 6ft 6in in his socks — but because he has shown himself to be an unexpectedly decisive leader.

When rebels briefly overthrew President Jawara's Government in The Gambia in August, President Diouf took the difficult decision to intervene quickly with Senegalese troops, and since then has set in train the plans to form a Senegambian confederation.

He has also greatly liberalized domestic politics by abandoning his predecessor's policy of restricting the number of political parties to four, and has thrown the doors open to all comers, so that this is now probably the liveliest political city in Africa.

If anything the increase in the number of political parties has strengthened the ruling Socialist Party as it has encouraged opposition splintering.

Senegalese have long spoken of their former president with a mixture of affection, pride and exasperation: affection because he was a humane and liberal leader who kept the peace in an ethnically diverse country whose politics are complicated by the power of rival Islamic brotherhoods; pride because he reflected prestige on Senegal through his international reputation as a man of letters and a French-language poet of the first rank; and exasperation because of a seeming indifference to the country's minimal economic progress.

A couple of years ago in the middle of one of the country's recurrent economic crises, Mr Senghor issued a decree on punctuation.

President Diouf cares little for the niceties of the comma or the semi-colon, but he is very exercised by the full stop which threatens the economy.

The economic stabilization plan, including stringent government retrenchment, is largely Mr Diouf's brainchild and work is at last under way on the ambitious plans to harness the hydroelectric and irrigation potential of the Senegal River, as well as on plans for a chemicals industry and the development of fisheries.

President Diouf has also been highly successful in getting international pledges to see the country through.

But perhaps the best thing that has happened to Senegal in its first year under his presidency has been plentiful rainfall, which after years of drought promises a good groundnut harvest.



Inside Poland: Roger Boyes reports

Spontaneous strikes defy military solution

Poland is still wracked by spontaneous labour unrest despite the efforts of the new military leadership to cordon off and at times forcefully break up sit-ins and strikes at factories throughout the country. This situation has been at least partially admitted by the official media which have reported continuing "irresponsible acts" by workers.

The immediate difficulty in judging the scope of the strike wave is the country's shift system. The authorities will often report that they have cleared a strike but within hours there is a change of shift. The new workers then enter the factory and a substantial part of the old shift are persuaded to stay.

This confusion goes some way towards explaining the conflicting reports emerging from the Lenin shipyards in Gdansk about the strike, which has either been successfully ended (according to the officials) or is sporadically continuing (according to Solidarity sources).

But it is clear that there is considerable unrest not only in the traditionally maverick factories—Nowa Huta in Cracow, Huta Warszawa in Warsaw—but also in the coal mines in Silesia and in Poznan, Lodz, Wroclaw, Radom and Katowice.

The pattern of breaking the strikes is that troops, usually backed by armoured personnel carriers, surround the factories, the factory management relays an ultimatum to the strikers and without any delay for negotiations, the soldiers then go in.

There have been no reports of serious injuries and, apart from conflicting reports from Cracow, shooting seems to have been avoided.

At the Nowa Huta steel works, some travellers report as many as six people shot, while other reports state that there was shooting but only above the heads of the crowd. Foreign correspondents, who apart from a telex and telephone blackout, have been banned from leaving Warsaw, have been unable to confirm the stories one way or another.

The only lasting solution is the closing down of the factories concerned. The military have done this at the Ursus tractor factory, a traditional source of worker militancy. But this only creates more problems than it solves. The Army clearly cannot close down every factory in the country;

This is particularly evident in the coal mines of Silesia, where some 20 pits are out of action.

All of this points to a role of some sort for Solidarity, the trade union, which is facing serious inhibitions on its activities.

Mr Lech Walesa, the leader of Solidarity, although in Government hands, is insisting that he will only make a decision on the union's attitude to martial law, with the full praesidium of the union, which implies that a number of the interned activists would have to be released.

The Roman Catholic Church too, though careful not to attack the new leadership, has called for the release of the interned, for the freedom of the union to operate within its legal bounds, and for the continuation of the process of democratic renewal.

There are thus clear bounds on the military—economic, religious, and the simple inability to cope with all of its various tasks. But the military is seeking in the first instance a military solution.

The Communist Party seems to have disappeared, at least temporarily, from the political landscape and the Army seems to be content to solve the national problems by simple military means.

At least the tank is Polish ... outside my window

The following letter to the editor from Roger Boyes, The Times *correspondent in Warsaw, was received in London yesterday:*

I'm afraid I'm having to send you this in rather unconventional form. It's one of a series and I only hope you're getting my other letters. Mainly colour. Tucked into a discreet corner of Warsaw where the world seems an infinity of overpopulated tower blocks and under-used factories, there is a snowbound T55 tank, one of the few in the Polish capital. "At least it's Polish", a Pole tells me, the meaning distinct enough.

There is a curious air of strained normality about the town; the military have not become a simple fact of life as in Belfast, but neither have they seriously interrupted the daily ebb and flow of existence. Shops and banks admittedly find it hard to operate but this is because of the telex and telephone blackout rather than any intrusive military presence.

The queues are still there—longer if anything—for food and almost every product apart from petrol, private sales of which are now banned. The first instinct has been to stockpile for the winter and worse.

But the troops, most of them from out of town, have moulded themselves surprisingly quickly to the contours of city life. Steel-helmeted police direct traffic, check identity cards, search the backs of vans for Solidarity leaflets. Red-bereted paratroops—who took over the state radio station on Saturday night—guard key institutions such as the Sejm (parliament).

Troops with batons and naked bayonets patrol the streets to enforce the 10 pm to 6 am curfew. Officers read the news on television, soldiers in plain clothes run the bus and tram system.

There are signs, though, that all these functions are overstraining the army; it has an active force of only 210,000 or so and yet has to perform a dual role: prove itself to be a competent governing force capable of giving the population what it wants while at the same time acting as a forceful guarantor of law and order.

The conflict of interest that this produces can be seen in the countryside. The army seems to be planning to bring plentiful or at least sufficient food into the shops by Christmas, yet can only do this by putting pressure on the farmers.

If it fails to produce the goods, the populace may well end up blaming the army for the shortages and the uneasy truce between townships and their protectors will wither away. This dilemma has been posed by the party.

The first analyses of the situation suggest that the Politburo met on Saturday, December 5, to discuss radical statements made by the union at a leadership meeting on the Thursday night.

Using tape recordings made of the Solidarity [free trade union] meeting, the hard-liners argued for contingency plans against a takeover of power by the union. The general (General Wojciech Jaruzelski) managed to win agreement for no immediate action but had to go ahead with contingency planning. Finally, sandwiched between the hard-liners of his own Politburo and continuing radical statements from Solidarity the general authorized the military takeover on the following Saturday, December 12.

The problem is this: the hard-liners sanctioned such a military takeover to crush Solidarity, hoping that they could divert strong nationalist feelings away from the union to the party. But if anything, the party is the loser.

The military takeover has not only ditched any chance of a power-sharing arrangement with Solidarity—except on the most abject terms—it has also completely undermined the slow trusting relationship with the Church, and has made it near-impossible to recapture the legitimacy of the party.

The immediate dilemma facing the army, however, is how to balance military efficacy, political sensibility and foreign political awareness. Even if Poland uses its full mobilization potential, it will be unable to handle the plethora of tasks it confronts.

The economy

US bankers balk at request for loan

From Bailey Morris
Washington, Dec 17

American bankers are taking a much harder line than their European counterparts on Poland's request for help in meeting $500m (£280m) in late interest payments owed to Western banks, a senior State Department official has disclosed.

In hastily-called meetings American banks yesterday decided to adopt a tough position on Poland in order to force the Soviet Union to produce the money Poland owes by December 31.

"American banks are hoping the Russian bear will blink", the official said, adding that the United States Government has decided not to intervent in the negotiations.

The Polish Government requested an additional $350m in loans from its Western creditors in order to pay the interest it owes to 460 bank on loans totalling $2,400m.

Directors of an estimated 20 American banks met separately to discuss the Polish request—the first communication from banking authorities since martial law was declared.

Some of America's largest banks are involved, including Bank of America, Citibank, Morgan Guaranty, Chemical Bank and Manufacturers Hanover Trust.

Most reacted negatively to the request with directors expressing doubts if Poland will be able to repay what it owes.

Altogether, Poland owes about $1,800m to 60 American banks and another $1,800m to the American Government. This is a small portion of the debt which is held largely by West German banks who are more anxious to reach agreement with Poland, one banker said.

Of the $500m in interest due to Western banks this month, American banks are due only about $100m.

Despite their pessimism over Poland's ability to repay, American bankers remain hopeful the Soviet Union will come to the rescue in order to preserve the fragile credit line to Western banks Poland so desperately needs.

It is highly unlikely that American banks or indeed, the majority of Western banks, will agree to provide Poland with new credits until overdue payments are met, a *Citibank* official said.

He declined to comment on reports that Citibank sent a message to this effect to the Polish Government yesterday. "I don't think you'll see many new credits or new loan restructure agreements until there is some movement on past-due payments", the banker said.

☐ Brussels: Poland's request for the bridging loan also received an unenthusiastic response from European bankers today (Peter Norman writes).

Although the banks have done no more than formally acknowledge that the request has been received, many bankers said privately that they cannot imagine Poland getting the money from anywhere except the Soviet Union.

"It is part of a super poker game", one West German banker said. "The Soviet Union will have to give the money to the Poles in the end."

The continuing news blackout from Warsaw has done nothing to increase the confidence of bankers. One banker closely involved with the Polish debt problem said today that the request would have to be dealt with in face-to-face negotiations with the Poles, but there was no indication in the telex from Bank Handlowy that the Poles were willing or able to participate in such talks.



The view from the West

Torch of liberty will burn, says Reagan

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, Dec 17

President Reagan issued a warning today that it would be impossible for the United States to continue trying to help Poland to solve its economic problems if the Polish people were not allowed to resolve their own problems free of internal coercion and *outside intervention.*

In the toughest American statement on the Polish crisis since martial law was declared last weekend, the President made it clear that the United States was prepared to take punitive measures against Poland if the communist authorities in Warsaw continued their purge of trade union leaders and intellectuals. However, he repeatedly refused to spell out what action the United States might take.

Addressing the sixth press conference of his Administration, the President also made it plain that the United States believed the Soviet Union was behind the Polish Government's decision to crack down on the Solidarity free trade union movement.

Washington's frustration

"It would be naive to think this could happen without the full knowledge and the support of the Soviet Union", he said in a prepared statement.

"We are not naive. We view the current situation in Poland in the gravest of terms ..."

The strength of the President's language coupled with his failure to announce any measures to be taken by the United States reflects the frustration felt in Washington at seeing events unfold in Poland without being able to do anything to influence them. The only action taken by the United States so far has met with a mixed response.

The Administration has been deeply conscious of criticisms being made in Washington comparing its relative inaction over Poland with President Carter's handling of the crises in Iran and Afghanistan.

The President said all the information reaching the United States confirmed that the imposition of martial law in Poland had led to the arrest and confinement, in prisons and detention camps, of thousands of Polish trade union leaders and intellectuals.

Factories were being seized by security forces and workers beaten, he said. "These acts make plain there's been a sharp reversal of the movement toward a freer society that has been underway in Poland for the past year and a half.

"Coercion and violation of human rights on a massive scale have taken the place of negotiation and compromise. All of this is in gross violation of the Helsinki Pact (of 1975 on East-West détente and human rights) to which Poland is a signatory."

The President called on all free people to join in urging the Polish Government to re-establish conditions that would make constructive negotiations and compromise possible.

"Certainly it will be impossible for us to continue trying to help Poland to solve its economic probems while martial law is imposed on the people of Poland; thousands are imprisoned and the legal rights of free trade unions previously granted by the Government are now denied."

The President said that Poland, speaking through Solidarity, had provided one of the brightest, bravest moments of modern history. Left to themselves, the Polish people would enjoy a new birth of freedom.

"But there are those who oppose the idea of freedom, who are intolerant of national independence and hostile to the European values of democracy and the rule of law.

"Two Decembers ago, freedom was lost in Afghanistan. This Christmas it's at stake in Poland. But the torch of liberty is hot", the President declared. "It burns those who try to extinguish it".

The colossal disaster

☐ Strasbourg: In his most outspoken statement so far on the situation in Poland, Lord Carrington today called for the release of all those who had been detained since the military takeover and an early resumption of the process of negotiation and conciliation in the country (Ian Murray writes).

"This alone," he told members of the European Parliament meeting here, "can produce a solution to Poland's problems."

Lord Carrington, who was reporting on the work of Britain as President of the Council of Ministers for the past six months, said that at the moment he was ready to arrange urgent consulations on the Polish issue if they became necessary.

His analysis of the situation was extremely gloomy. In the 48 hours since the EEC Foreign Ministers had met in London, he said, "the Polish skies have continued to darken".

He went on: "We are familiar with natural disasters; but here in the heart of our continent is a man-made disaster on a colossal scale. Although news is censored and communications cut and diplomatic facilities suspended, we read of arrests, detentions and evictions. There has almost certainly been some loss of life. There is an ominous silence about the fate of Lech Walesa."

Lord Carrington said he did not want to make the situation more difficult by his words and there were many things he could say but would leave unsaid.

"But two things seem clear to me. First and foremost as has been so often before, there must be no foreign interference whatever and, second, there must be an early resumption of the process of negotiation and conciliation, including the release of those in detention."

He noted that assurances about this had been given by "what is called the Military Council of National Salvation". The Parliament and the world, he said, would be watching to see how these assurances were put into effect.

Lord Carrington's statement takes a much tougher line than the one issued on Tuesday by the ministers of the Community at their informal London meeting. That is because reports of the situation have now confirmed that the military takeover has been complete.

Although reports that Soviet transport aircraft have arrived in Warsaw have not been taken as proof of use of Soviet troops, Lord Carrington has sought to underline the dangers of any possible Soviet involvement.

It seems that Solidarity is not working openly in the country, although transport to Warsaw has been somewhat disrupted and workers have been occupying their factories in the provinces rather longer than has been possible in Warsaw.

The refugees

Travellers tell of tension and courtesy

By Robin Young and Simon Scott-Plummer

Passengers on the first flight out of Warsaw since the military takeover painted a picture of tension and sorrow in Poland when they arrived at Heathrow airport, London, last night.

Foreign nationals who succeeded in getting on board Flight LO 285 due at 9.30 am finally touched down at Heathrow shortly after 7 pm. Delays had been attributed to strict security control at Warsaw airport.

Mr Bohden Rybinski, a Polish-born businessman from Surrey, said: "There was a considerable show of strength—tanks on the streets, soldiers at every corner, with police more in the background. The army were strict but polite. We were not allowed to take any pictures or to go out on the street at night . . . The atmosphere is very sad."

Mr Zigmunt Kollard, who had gone to Poland with food parcels, said he thought most Poles had accepted the new situation. However, he did not have the impression that Solidarity was defeated.

Mr Larbi Meddeb, a Swiss who had been in transit for only one day but forced to stay five, found the atmosphere in Warsaw "very easy going."

☐ A British teacher and an elderly man who did not want to give their names said the Solidarity offices in Warsaw had been smashed up by Polish troops and water pipes cut so the offices were flooded (the Press Association reports).

"Many people are being arrested for putting up posters, but the soldiers are being very friendly," said the teacher.

Mrs Georgina Pentland, from Driffield, Yorkshire, arrived in Warsaw with food for friends shortly before the takeover.

"The atmosphere changed immediately", she said. "We didn't even feel safe walking in the streets. On the whole the soldiers were polite and courteous, but there were masses of police around and we were told by our friends to keep out of their way."



Trains of hope that passed in the night



An Austrian woman and her child (above) learn the news in Vienna that her Polish husband, whom she expected to see, had gone to meet her in Warsaw after hearing of military rule being imposed. Their son (right) waits and weeps.

The woman travelled on the Chopin Express from Warsaw to Vienna which, during the night, passed the train from Vienna to Warsaw with her husband on board.

Road and rail links in and out of Poland have been cut or severely delayed. All foreigners are being prevented from entering from neighbouring East block countries.

POLISH NEWS IN SUMMARY

Coal supply halted

☐ Hamburg: Polish coal deliveries to West Germany and West Berlin will total one million tonnes this year, only 40 per cent of the contracted amount, a spokesman for the importing agents said today.

But the Pol-Kohle GMBH spokesman said the company had firm commitments for increased supplies in 1982. No coal has left Poland for West Germany since the imposition of martial law, he said.
—Reuter

☐ A demand that British trade unions should sever all links with the official "phoney" unions in the Soviet block was made by the Polish Solidarity Campaign in London yesterday. (Our Foreign Staff writes).

☐ Paris: M Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, said yesterday the military takeover in Poland was contrary to the Helsinki agreements and that the French representative to the Madrid conference on European security would say so (Charles Hargrove writes).

☐ Geneva: A "Light a Candle of Peace" appeal to people in Poland, Switzerland and other countries was issued yesterday by the Protestant and Roman Catholic Churches here (Alan McGregor writes).

☐ The Polish military takeover was an abortion of history, having nothing to do with socialism, Señor Santiago Carrillo, the Spanish Communist Party leader, said (Richard Wigg writes).

The view from the East

Crisis birthday for Soviet leader

Moscow, Dec 17.—East European leaders began arriving in the Soviet capital today for celebrations to mark the seventy-fifth birthday on Saturday of President Leonid Brezhnev.

Mr Brezhnev's birthday, like his seventieth in 1976, is being treated as a big event in the Soviet calendar and has been heralded with books, films, television documentaries, special exhibitions and fulsome praise in the official press.

Usually reliable sources said leaders of the Soviet Union's Warsaw Pact allies would present Mr Brezhnev, who is also the Communist Party's General Secretary, with national decorations tomorrow, but it seemed unlikely that there would be any summit meeting on the Polish crisis.

It was uncertain whether General Wojciech Jaruzelski, Poland's Prime Minister and party leader, would be able to attend, and the Kremlin appeared unwilling to let Mr Brezhnev's birthday be overshadowed by the Polish events.

Moscow has taken the line that the imposition of martial law in Poland is an internal affair and is going to great lengths to show that it is not involved directly.

On Saturday, Mr Brezhnev is likely to be awarded a high Soviet decoration by his Politburo colleagues and attend a Kremlin reception in his honour.

The expected deluge of honours began earlier this week, when Mr Babrak Karmal, the Afghan leader, came to Moscow especially to present Mr Brezhnev with his country's "Sun of Freedom" order.

A special Soviet delegation travelled all the way to Bulgaria to be present at the unveiling of a large bronze bust of the Soviet leader in Sofia.

Mr Brezhnev has already far outstripped his predecessor, Nikita Khrushchev, in honours and titles, and in some respects has even outdone Stalin. Since his 70th birthday he has added the title of chairman of the Praesidium of the Supreme Soviet to his position as party General-Secretary, which he has held since the fall of Mr Khrushchev in 1964.

He has also been hailed as a leading Soviet writer for four slim volumes of reminiscences. The most recent was published last month and described his childhood and early life. Meetings and conferences have been held across the Soviet Union to discuss the lessons of the Brezhnev memoirs.

The period of Mr Brezhnev's past career which has been most highlighted recently is the Second World War when he was a political commissar with the 18th Army. Less has been said recently about his contribution to the development of agriculture, perhaps because the Soviet Union has had three bad harvests in a row.

Big prominence has also been given to his role as an international statesman and as the "architect of détente." Mr Yuri Zhukov, a veteran commentator for the Communist Party newspaper *Pravda*, referred in an article today to Mr Brezhnev's rank of Marshal of the Soviet Union and dubbed him Marshal of peace."

Mr Brezhnev was once widely rumoured to want to cap his career by becoming the first Soviet leader to retire voluntarily. ut no obvious successor has been groomed and foreign diplomatic analysts of the Kremlin scene now believe that he will stay at the helm as long as his uncertain health permits.

Nothing is said publicly about Mr Brezhnev's health but he is known to have suffered for some years from a variety of ailments which force him to take extended rests. Last month, he proved he was still fit enough to carry out foreign trips by traveling to West Germany, where he seemed to many observers to be in better shape t han on his previous visit there in 1978.

Yugoslav commentary angers embassy

From Dessa Trevisan, Belgrade, Dec 17

The Polish Embassy in Belgrade has lodged a protest against a commentary relayed last night by Belgrade television which raised misgivings about the claim that Poland was threatened by counter-revolution and blamed the Polish Communist Party's failure to meet popular demands for the present situation.

The commentator, Mr Milika Sundic, is known for his outspoken criticism of the Soviet Union. This time, in airing doubts whether martial law can provide an effective solution to Poland's problems, he went beyond the official Yugoslav view which was that the state of emergency should be as short as possible and all countries should refrain from meddling.

Mr Sundic, however, said that the martial law was a "necessary evil" imposed on the ground that Poland was threatened by counter-revolution.

The most important thing now, he went on, was to stop the lesser evil from turning into a bigger one and to avoid bloodshed or foreign intervention. Fear of this should not be a reason for prolonging the martial law indefinitely.

He said that the present situation should be called by its proper name: a state of emergency meant nothing else but military rule. In other words, this was an admission that the Polish Communist Party had failed the test and there was no "greater failure than for a Communist Party to lose the confidence of the working class."

This was not to say that it was impossible for the party to regain confidence. But Mr Sundic doubted whether military rule was the right way to do it: The Polish Communist Party had not met the demands and expectations of the Polish workers who had been betrayed several times in the past. It was questionable whether army rule could give them what the party had failed to provide.

The Yugoslavs have repeatedly sounded warnings against anyone attempting to interfere in Poland's affairs and Mr Sundic said that this would be extremely dangerous. But the Yugoslavs clearly feel that the longer martial law is maintained, the greater is the danger of the crisis deepening still further.

Yugoslav journalists in Warsaw in their dispatches speak of growing concern as strikes, especially in the large industrial centres, continue. The correspondent of Tanjug, the official Yugoslav news agency, said that the workers in Poland's largest steel mill in Cracow had laid down tools and security forces intervened to break up the strike.

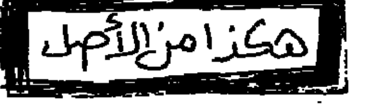
A sit-in was reported in two more factories in Cracow as well as in several industrial centres, all of which were cleared by security forces.

In Lodz crowds gathered in the city centre and were dispersed by security forces. Several people are said to have been arrested.

The aniversary today of the Baltic riots in which many people were killed 11 years ago provoked further tension throughout the country. Warnings relayed continuously over Polish radio and television claimed that the young were being misled by anti-Communists and explained what the artial law meant.

In the past 24 hours, more than 20 officials have been dismissed, mainly factory managers who are believed to have ignored orders given under emergency rtgulations. This indicates that medium-rank party oficials, especialy in the large factories, are joining in the protests *against martial* law. Yugoslav sources also report that the rector of the Naval Academy in Gdynia, has been dismissed.

Yugoslav reports also speak of increasing difficulties in marktt supplies, of long queues for bread, which has been rationed at one kilogram a person a day.



Pretoria offers Namibia plan guarded welcome

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg, Dec 17

The West's revised constitutional guidelines for an independent Namibia (South-West Africa) which include important new detail on the method of electing a constituent assembly, were handed over today to the South African Government in Cape Town and to the so-called internal political parties in the South African administered territory.

The proposals will today and tomorrow also be presented to the front-line black African states (Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe), Kenya, Nigeria and the South-West Africa People's Organization (Swapo).

After receiving the proposals, Mr R. F. Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, said that the independence process appeared to be "still on the tracks".

The proposals were presented at a meeting between Mr Botha and ambassadors of America, Britain, Canada, France and West Germany, the five western powers forming the "contact group" which has been seeking an internationally acceptable independence for Namibia since 1977.

The main innovation in the revised guidelines, which seek to reconcile the often conflicting criticisms of the West's original proposals of last October, is the much amplified and much more specific section on the elections to the constituent assembly.

The West now says that half the seats in the assembly should be elected by proportional representation, with parties being represented in exact proportion to the number of votes they receive, and the other half on the basis of single-member constituencies containing as nearly equal a number of inhabitants as is practicable.

In an accompanying explanatory memorandum, the western five say that this will mean that each voter will have two votes, "one to be counted on the level of a single national constituency, the other on the basis of his local constituency". (The model for this scheme is clearly the West German electoral system.)

The memorandum also says unequivocally that "there is no intention to reserve seats in the assembly for ethnic groups."

The West's proposal is highly ingenious. It meets the black African demand for one-man-one-vote elections but could conceivably deny Swapo the two-thirds majority of the assembly seats required under the constitutional proposals for adoption of Namibia's constitution.

Many observers believe Swapo could win up to 70 per cent of votes cast. If the constituent assembly has a total of 50 seats (the size of the existing legislature) Swapo could expect 17 or 18 of the 25 seats elected by proportional representation.

To command a two-thirds majority, Swapo would then need to win 16 or 17 of the remaining 25 single-member constituencies. This could be difficult as Swapo's chief support comes from the Ovambos, who constitute 47 per cent of the population but are concentrated in the north

This could enable the multi-ethnic Democratic Turnhalle Alliance and smaller parties to win between them more than a third of the assembly seats. They would then have some say in the formulation of the constitution.

Appeal to West

Angola grows desperate for end to conflict

Luanda, Dec 17.—Angola appears to be sending messages of despair to the West over Namibia as time runs out for the Luanda leadership to secure the solution of a problem that is crippling the country.

The most significant move came last week when President José Eduardo Dos Santos offered to negotiate with the United States at any time.

He did so days after Mr Alexander Haig, United States Secretary of State, received the main opponent of the Luanda Government, Dr Jonas Savimbi, head of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita).

Yesterday the Portuguese state radio in Lisbon quoted Mr Adriano Sebastiao, the Angolan Ambassador, of saying his country would be willing to talk to Dr Savimbi if he gave up his links with South Africa.

Angola's Embassy in Lisbon today denied its ambassador had said his Government was willing to hold talks with Dr Savimbi and alleged press manipulation of his remarks.

Angola has made offers to the United States before, but the timing of President Dos Santos's latest proposal lent it special weight. It took a good deal of political courage for the President to hold out an olive branch to the United States immediately after the Reagan Administration had lavished official attention on the man his Government has branded an arch-traitor.

Soviet diplomats in Luanda scornfully commented that there was nothing new in the offer and said that President Dos Santos's condemnation of United States interference in Angola's internal affairs was far more important.

However, in its news summary, the official Angolan news agency Angop only gave two extracts from the speech; one contained the President's offer and the other quoted him as praising American businessmen.

President Dos Santos, cast as an increasingly isolated moderate in Angola's confused political scene, appears to have thrown his full political weight behind efforts to secure the independence of Namibia through negotiations with the West.

Since last summer's South African incursion, Angola has lost control of a large slice of its territory stretching from the south bank of the Cunene river to the Namibian border.

The loss of southern Cunene province is the price Angola has had to pay for sheltering the South-West Africa People's Organization (Swapo) that has been fighting a 15-year guerrilla war against South African forces for the independence of Namibia.

President Dos Santos repeatedly reaffirms his support for Swapo in public speeches, but there are indications that all is not well between the organization and its Angolan hosts.

It is probably the economic cost of maintaining the confrontation with South Africa that is putting the heaviest pressure on the Luanda leadership. The South African incursion is being officially blamed for the worsening food shortages and the crisis that is forcing Angola to cut imports and lower its main economic targets.

Although potentially one of the richest countries in Africa, Angola is not being given a chance to develop its wealth because it has to spend most of its oil revenues on importing arms, as well as the food that is not being grown because of the guerrilla war being waged by South African-backed Unita guerrillas.

The Namibian issue has always been reported to be one of the most divisive within Angola's fragmented leadership. The fact that President Dos Santos has so closely identified himself with a negotiated solution could mean that not only the future of Namibia, but his own political survival now depends on America's reply to his latest offer.—Reuter.

European space flight delayed

From Clive Cookson
Kourou, French Guiana, Dec 17

Fuel supply problems have delayed the fourth and final test flight of the European rocket Ariane by at least 24 hours.

Officials at the French Guiana space centre were working feverishly today on the plates connecting the liquid oxygen supply to Ariane's third stage. Last night, just before lift-off, they found a defect in the mechanism that locks the plates in place until the fuel tanks are full.

If the problem is solved as expected, the European Space Agency's rocket will take off on Saturday night (early Sunday morning GMT).

The French-dominated team of space scientists and engineers is anxious to put on a perfect show for the representatives of communications satellite organizations—Ariane's potential customers—who have flown in.

So far the European Space Agency and Ariane-Space (the company that will produce and market Ariane) have firm bookings to launch 21 satellites

Britain has contributed only 2.4 per cent of Ariane's £500m development costs.

Tough talks start in Singapore

From David Watts
Singapore, Dec 17

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Muhammad, the new Malaysian Prime Minister today began his first official talks with Singapore since taking office.

Against the background of Malaysia's more assertive mood the first day of intensive meetings will be watched with more than usual interest in the region because it brings together two determined, tough-minded men who have not always had kind words for each other.

Dr Mahathir is similar to his Singapore counterpart, Mr Lee Kuan Yew, not only in his nationalistic, almost humourless, approach to life, but also in his expectation that things will be done precisely the way he wants them.

Two bilateral issues are likely to bring some old-fashioned political horse-trading in the talks. Malaysia wants to take control of air traffic throughout the length of peninsular Malaysia, now partly under Singapore's control, and is seeking extra land for its naval headquarters base, which is on Singapore

Singapore needs more land in the south of the island for continuing development.

PARLIAMENT December 17 1981

MPs demand fares debate

LORDS RULING

Demands from Labour MPs, led by Mr Michael Foot, were made to the Prime Minister and the Leader of the House, for an early debate on today's court decision on London Transport fares.

Mr Foot said the House should have a chance to pronounce on what it thought was a fair fares policy for London.

Mr Francis Pym, Leader of the House, said MPs should have time to study the judgment before they debated it.

There is to be a debate tomorrow on a private member's motion on communications to London and the south-east. But Mr Foot said that this could be no substitute for a proper debate in government time.

The exchanges began when Mr Foot asked: has the Prime Minister had a chance today to study the House of Lords judgment on the GLC appeal about London fares? This judgment is bound to have, if carried out—(Conservative interruptions)—as it must be—(renewed Conservative interruptions)—the law must be observed ... if the law is to be observed in these terms it would have serious consequences for travellers in London.

Would she therefore take urgent steps to introduce legislation to restore the law to the position which many people thought it was before, including herself when she was spokesman for her side of the House when the Transport (London) Act 1969 was passing through?

Mrs Thatcher: He has either misunderstood the judgment, or what I said, or both. I welcome the clear and unanimous judgment from the House of Lords and congratulate Bromley. The judgment runs to some 100 pages. We shall need time to consider carefully what it says. It is already clear that the GLC action was a breach of the duty they owed to ratepayers and wrong in law.

When in Opposition I made a comment on the then government's Bill under which this judgment was given. It sounded to me from what Mr Foot said as if he thought the judgment precluded altogether the possibility of subsidies from the ratepayers. I do not believe that to be so.

What I understand the main burden of the judgment to be in that particular respect is that London Transport has a duty to budget, to make a reasonable effort, to break even, recognizing that in present circumstances it may well not do so.

The previous year's budget, set on the basis that there would be a £50m subsidy from the GLC, constituted just such a reasonable effort, and that subsidy in itself is not unlawful.

Mr Foot: The Prime Minister has not had time to study the debates in which she took part several years ago on the matter when the Bill was passing through the Commons.

The whole question of what was economic and not economic was considered then. She made no objection to the Bill in the terms it went through. Will she not consider urgently the possibility of legislation to make this matter absolutely clear and for the House itself to have the chance to pronounce again on what it thinks is a proper and fair fares policy for London? (Labour cheers).

Mrs Thatcher: First of all, one must look in detail at the House of Lords judgment before rushing into an instant solution or instant action. On a matter as important as this, clearly a period of reflection is called for. This was a judgment on the law. (Labour shouts of "political judgment"). I understand, it is that judgment, does not preclude subsidies. That was the point I was on.

The judgment was not concerned with the fairness of the GLC decision to reduce by 25 per cent fares charged in greater London by the London Transport Executive. It was concerned with the legality of that decision within the limited powers Parliament had conferred by statute on the GLC. The Lords came to the conclusion it was not.

Mr Foot: The Commons should take a considerable time to consider the matter. Will Mrs Thatcher give an undertaking that she will give the Commons a chance to pronounce on legislation before chaos is caused in London fares?

Mrs Thatcher: If one is considering a matter, it is as well for the consideration to preceed a conclusion.

Mr Michael Neubert (Havering, Romford, C): As a former leader of the council of the London Borough of Bromley, may I ask Mrs Thatcher to take another opportunity to congratulate my former colleagues on that council who, by their successful action against the GLC, have brought relief to millions of hard-pressed ratepayers throughout London?

If her commitments allow, her to contribute to a debate on a private member's motion tomorrow on communications in London, when we shall have five hours to consider the implications of this historic decision, she will be very welcome.

Mrs Thatcher: I congratulate Mr Neubert on both counts—for having been leader of Bromley council, and secondly for having had the power of prophecy in having a debate on communications in London tomorrow. I am sure it will be a very interesting debate. My constituents have as much interest in this as Mr Neubert's.

Mr Sydney Bidwell (Ealing, Southall, Lab): Mrs Thatcher's reference to breaking even is out of line with the running of public transport in any other major city in western Europe. This judgment will be treated with widespread dismay by thousands of ordinary folk in London.

Mrs Thatcher: The House of Lords clear and unanimous decision was that the GLC has acted outside the rule of law which protects citizens against the arbitrary exercise of power.

After questions, Mr Norman Atkinson (Haringey, Tottenham, Lab) on a point of order said: There is widespread opinion that the legal judgment made by all of their Lordships will be considered to be an extra-parliamentary political instrument. (Loud Conservative protests and shouts of "Nonsense").

The Speaker (Mr George Thomas): I have had notice that an application for an emergency debate will be made. I have also listened to exchanges during question time and looked on the order paper about the debate tomorrow. Therefore it does not sound to me as if Mr Atkinson has a point of order on which I can rule.

Mr Ivan Lawrence (Burton, C): It is completely out of order for an MP to accuse the judgments of the courts of being politically motivated as Mr Atkinson has just done.

The Speaker: We try in this House to respect the judiciary as we expect the judiciary to respect us. I think we can leave that matter there.

I hope we are not going to pursue this. It is the judgment we are interested in. To accuse the motives of people in the judiciary will be as out of order as it would be to accuse people of dishonourable or unfair motives within this House.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab): It is a matter you ought to rule on in view of the fact you seem to want the House not to refer to the question of the law lords and their decision. I understand that.

The Speaker: Just to help you and to save us having a clash, as long as you understand you are not free to criticize the motives of the judges.

Mr Skinner: I do.

The Speaker: It sounds as if we are going to get on better than I thought. (Laughter).

Mr Skinner: The point you have to clarify is while it seems that reference to the law lords position is being politically connived on this side of the House is wrong, the Prime Minister in an earlier contribution laid great stress upon the way in which this matter was dealt with in the first instance by a Tory-controlled council. She went out of her way to congratulate them. There should be even handedness on both sides.

The Speaker: It is always important in this House to be even-handed. I have no doubt if and when a debate takes place, there will be both defence and criticism of both local authorities involved.

That is entirely different from an attack on the motives of judges reaching their decision.

After Mr Francis Pym, Leader of the House had announced the business for next week, Mr Foot said: Any discussion on a Friday about this matter is unsatisfactory as an appropriate way of dealing with the question. We expect Mr Pym to rearrange the business for next week so we can have a full debate on the serious implications of this matter in preparation for what we believe is the only proper way of dealing with it which is for the Government to introduce legislation.

If the Government is to introduce fresh legislation after the recess, the House should give its guidance on this matter in a debate next week, and the Government should give time for it.



Neubert: Ex-Bromley leader.



Skinner: Be even-handed

Mr Pym (Cambridge, C): Obviously from what Mrs Thatcher has said, tomorrow's debate will certainly not be the end of the matter. The Government is to give proper consideration to this judgment as will no doubt Opposition MPs. After that process has been completed we can review the matter again.

I am not prepared to rearrange business for next week. We cannot say how long this consideration either on this subject or others will take.

Mr Christopher Price (Lewisham, West, Lab): A judgment like this which has the effect of virtually changing the law of the land must be debated at the earliest possible moment.

Mr Pym: The judgment refers to London ratepayers. In so far as it may have wider implications and in so far as his opinion may be right, that adds force to what I said about proper consideration being given to this judgment in the first case.

Mr James Wellbeloved (Bexley, Erith and Crayford, SDP): What is at issue is not the right of the GLC to provide a subsidy, but the responsibility which they exercise in providing that subsidy. It is advisable to have a debate so that Mr Livingstone and his Marxist friends on the GLC, and some of them here, can be made aware that what is unacceptable to Londoners is his irresponsible attitude, and that what he needs to do is to exercise responsible management of London's affairs.

Mr Pym: I have nothing to add to the replies I have given.

Mr Ivor Stanbrook (Bromley, Orpington, C): There is one urgent need for legislative action to follow that judgment, and that is a Bill of Indemnity to protect those persons who have acted apparently unlawfully in the belief that they were acting lawfully. This may be a matter of great urgency. Will the Government consider bringing in early legislation?

Mr Pym: I do not know about legislation. The point he has raised will certainly come into consideration of the judgment.

Later, Mr Albert Booth, Opposition spokesman on Transport, unsuccessfully sought an emergency debate.

Thatcher no to incomes policy

ECONOMY

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during questions that a comprehensive incomes policy was not a practicable possibility in our society. In other societies it had happened only with direction of labour and the extinction of freedom.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab) had asked if she was prepared to meet a representative group of nurses in respect of their current wage claim.

Mrs Thatcher: Current wage claims are not negotiated through my office. I understand that the nurses want to talk about the long-term machinery for settling their pay. At a meeting last week with the Secretary of State for Social Services the staff side of the Nurses' and Midwives' Whitley Council again asked if I would see them. I have therefore agreed to see them tomorrow.

Mr Skinner: Will she give them a clear, unequivocal commitment that the nurses' pay increase for next year will be no less than the 15.2 per cent increase as measured by the Government's own taxes and prices index? Is it not a scandal that at a time when the Government is forcing up rents to the tune of £2.50 a week, when there are many other price increases in the pipeline and when we have had this apparent conspiracy by the law lords and a Tory council to push up fares, nurses should be treated in this fashion?

Mrs Thatcher: This Government has made clear that it holds the nurses in high esteem. In the past three years there has been a 76 per cent increase in the nurses' pay bill.

Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles, L): There is a danger that responsible groups in society, like nurses, who do not resort to strike action will find themselves increasingly penalized until we develop a fair and comprehensive incomes policy.

Mrs Thatcher: I do not think there is any such practicable possibility as a comprehensive incomes policy. In societies where it has happened it has happened only with direction of labour and the extinction of freedom.

Mr Paul Dean (North Somerset, C): Nurses felt badly let down by the Labour Government. They are hoping for better things following their meeting with her tomorrow.

Would it not be easier to get a good settlement for the nurses if everybody in the health service followed the good example of the Royal College of Nursing and outlawed strike action against patients?

Mrs Thatcher: I agree. It would also make it easier to have more pay for certain groups of people we especially value in society if other people did not take it out for themselves.

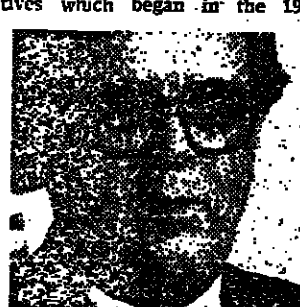
Indicators pointing to growth

Increased industrial and manufacturing production in recent months pointed to continued growth of national output, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said during questions in the Commons.

He told MPs that average earnings had outpaced price rises over the last three years and that even a family on half the average earnings was only slightly worse off than three years ago after taking account of various benefits.

Mr Ronald Leighton (Newham, North East, Lab) had asked if the Chancellor was satisfied with the level of incentives provided by his economic policy and to what extent the incentive polices outlined in his Budget of June 1979 had been modified.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: The Government remains committed to continue the improvement of incentives which began in the 1979



Howe: Committed to better incentives

Budget. Further progress must depen upon the likely balance between tax revenue and public expenditure.

Mr Leighton: He assured us that his original incentive Budget would release the energies of what he called the entrepreneurs? Current output of British manufacturing industry is 16 per cent less than in May 1979. Is this intentional? Does this mean his policy is a success or a failure?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: Marginal rates of taxation, particularly for entrepreneurs, were substantially reduced in my first Budget. Had that not been so people would have been contemplating a dispiriting prospect now. (Labour laughter.)

Manufacturing output and industrial output have risen for the last four months. Output of manufacturing industry in the third quarter was 2.5 per cent up on the second quarter. Industrial production in the last three months was up 1.5 per cent on the previous quarter.

All those factors are pointing in the direction of continued growth of national output.

Mr Archibald Hamilton (Epsom and Ewell, C): The greatest incentive which could be given to British industry would be to get interest rates down. The best way to do that is to control public expenditure and not run up large government borrowing.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: He is right to draw attention to that fact. A reduction in interest rates is certainly something to which industry attaches importance and in considering the size of borrowing likely to reduce that, one has to take account of revenue and expenditure.

Mr Jack Straw, an Opposition spokesman on treasury and economic affairs (Blackburn, Lab): While he is right to say the tax burden for the very rich has gone down and a man on £595 a week is £25 a week better off as a result of the tax changes, is not the truth that for the overwhelming majority of British people on average or below average earnings the income tax burden has risen and for the lowest-paid family on half the average earnings their income tax burden has almost doubled under this Government?

Can he say where that was contained in his election manifesto?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: He overlooks, as Labour MPs so often do, the increase in earnings that has taken place alongside the other changes.

If he takes account of earnings on average rising by 57.5 per cent over the last three years compared with a rise in prices of just over 50 per cent he will find that disposable income in most types of households, after payment of income tax and national insurance contributions, has kept ahead of prices.

Even for a household with two children on 50 per cent of the average earnings, after taking account of child benefit and family income supplement, the fall is only 0.3 per cent in real disposable income.

Howe rules out insurance surcharge cut

The Chancellor of the Exchequer was urged by MPs of three parties, including his own, to reduce national insurance surcharge in order to help British industry.

Mr Richard Wainwright (Colne Valley, L) asked for an estimate of the cost of reducing the surcharge by 2 per cent.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: On the basis of the economic assumptions recently published in the report of the Government Actuary on the Social Security (Contribution) Bill 1981, the full year cost of reducing the rate of NIS by 2 percentage points would be about £2,300m.

Mr Wainwright: Reduction in the revenue would be dwarfed by increased buoyancy of the revenue following such reduction, because it has been estimated that removal of this handicap to British industry would produce at least 200,000 more jobs, an increase of about 1.5 per cent in gross domestic product and reduction of the retail price index of 1 per cent.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: I am afraid the arithmetic is not as easy or as encouraging as he suggests. I recognize the reason that many people in business would like this surcharge reduced, but I have to bear in mind the total revenue of £3,800m.

Mr Timothy Eggar (Enfield, North, C): Reduction of the surcharge would be the single most effective way of assisting industry. Does he accept that industry is in need of assistance?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: We recognize the need to assist industry by reducing costs and the burden of charges that bear upon it. But I have received many representations that do not point in that direction and they have to be considered in the light of the total revenue position when the time comes to do that.

Mr Peter Shore, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs (Tower Hamlets, Stepney and Poplar, Lab): Does he not think that in the interests of competitiveness of the economy and the increase in demand which would follow from a reduction of the order of magnitude that has been suggested, he could give further and urgent consideration to this modest proposal?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: By far the largest cause of the reduction in the competitiveness of British industry since 1975 has been the doubling in the unit labour costs. The exchange rate of the pound is now very close to its level when this Government came into office.

What a pity that it was his Government that introduced the National Insurance surcharge and added to the burden of industry by 5 per cent.

Next week

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:
Monday: Proceedings on the Consolidated Fund Bill.
Tuesday: Hops Marketing Bill, and Currency Bill, remaining stages. Debates on situation in Poland and in the Middle East.
Wednesday: Christmas adjournment debates.

The main business in the House of Lords next week will be:
Tuesday: Royal Assent.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Debate on private member's motion on communications in London and the south-east.

Labour attack on unfair national insurance

SOCIAL SECURITY

It was grossly unfair that someone earning £35,000 a year paid only 2.9 per cent of their income towards national insurance contributions while someone on about £100 a week contributed about 8.75 per cent, Mr Jeffrey Rooker, an Opposition spokesman on Social Security, said when opening the committee stage of the Social Security (Contributions) Bill.

Mr Rooker (Birmingham, Perry Barr, Lab) who was opposing the clause in the Bill on increased contributions, said it was a highly regressive part of the tax and social security system.

Why should someone earning five times average earnings (he said) only contribute a third of the amount of their income in proportional terms towards pensions and other social security benefits, including the part that goes towards the NHS, as the average earner?

Rather than raising a penny in the pound on national insurance it would be fairer to raise the money by income tax. But to amalgamate the two systems, which would be necessary to achieve this, one would have to abolish the tax threshold system so that income tax was collected on all incomes, which would mean that there would be no personal allowances, or abolish the lower earnings limit so that no National Insurance was collected on such earnings.

In due course Labour would put to the country a set of coherent proposals to clear up the problem of the interaction between the tax and social security systems.

The large increase in the national insurance contribution rate would almost wipe out, for many wage earners, the drop in the standard rate of income tax.

The effect of what the Government was doing to the pay packets of more than 20 million workers was catastrophic for the low paid.

Mr David Ennals (Norwich, North, Lab) said it was never the intention when Parliament decided to introduce earnings-related contributions that there should be Bill after Bill raising the percentage of earnings.

The trouble with using national insurance contributions as a tax system was that was extremely regressive and might undermine confidence in the contributory principle, particularly when contributions were being increased as contributory benefits were reduced.

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, said that leaving out the clause would result in a deficit in the working balance in 1982-83 of about £1,500m in the National Insurance Fund, which would reduce the balance in the fund to something like £3,300m—representing only nine weeks' benefit expenditure.

It would also be regressive, in that it would place a disproportionate burden on the lower paid, by not raising the lower and upper earnings limits. This would bring into contributions liability low earners, especially part-timers, who had previously escaped.

To leave the levels as they were would benefit the higher paid and disadvantage the lower paid.

An increase in contribution was needed to avoid deficit in the fund. Successive governments had followed the policy of keeping income and expenditure of the fund broadly in balance.

The new clause was carried by 271 votes to 218—Government majority, 53.

The Bill was read the third time.

London–Dublin talks no threat to Ulster's status

HOUSE OF LORDS

The activities of the para-militarists in Northern Ireland and the recent tensions created by extremist politicians on both sides of the sectarian divide had made it difficult to attract inward investment, the Earl of Gowrie, Minister of State for Northern Ireland, said, moving the approval of the Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Act 1978 (Continuance) (No 2) Order 1981.

The Government's security policy was based on the simple premise that those who broke the laws of democratic society must be dealt with by the courts.

It was inevitable that people would turn their minds to extra-legal or Draconian measures, but this was not the way forward. The innocent would suffer disproportionately from any such measures and the police and Army would lose the popular support they so crucially needed to do their job.

If the police and Army appeared to be above the law the para-militarists would set themselves up as defenders of oppressed communities. The Government was asking people to reject paramilitary solutions to political questions and would not give them the pretext for claiming popular approval or the chance to claim that the civil system of law was either cynical or unjust.

Active repudiation of violence was only likely to come about when the two communities were able to recognize each other's different aspirations and loyalties and to live together as close and good neighbours and live with the Irish Republic as close and good neighbours.

This meant political movement. It meant give and take and a recognition that neither community was ever likely to sway the other altogether to its point of view.

I am confident (he said) in the ability of the security forces to contain violence. Only a new deal for Northern Ireland and a change of heart within Northern Ireland has a chance of seriously diminishing the violence. The security forces must not be distracted from their task by people wishing to to take the law into their own hands or threatening to do so.

None of the discussions of arrangements between London and Dublin posed any threat to Northern Ireland's position as a constituent part of the United Kingdom. On the contrary, Northern Ireland had nothing to fear and a great deal to gain.

It seemed clear that representatives of both sides of the divided community desired a transfer of powers to locally elected representatives in the province, if that could be achieved, so that they could have a great say in running their own affairs.

That was the Government's aim. It was the most likely means of finding Governmental arrangements for Northern Ireland acceptable to both parts of the community and as a method of easing the tension.

Viscount Brookeborough (C) said the approach of the Irish Government on extradition was hypocritical. They had wrung their hands and said that if only it was not illegal they would have it. They should amend the law on extradition and submit it to the Supreme Court to see if the court believed it was *ultra vires*, as the Irish Government suggested.

The people of Northern Ireland believed that a gesture by the Irish Government to deal with fugitive offenders would be of the highest political importance.

Lady Ewart-Biggs (Lab) said the time had come for an inquiry in the working of the emergency powers.

The Earl of Gowrie said this was not the time to give the men of violence the impression that Britain's resolve was weakening, or to raise the fears of the majority of law-abiding citizens, by calling the legislation, which had become accepted as necessary, however regrettably necessary, into question.

The order was approved.

The Nuclear Industry (Finance) Bill was read the third time. The Fire Service College Board (Abolition) Bill and the Housing (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill were read a second time.

Carrington disappointed at EEC progress

STRASBOURG

The paradox which the European Community needed to resolve was that in these times of political and economic uncertainty it seemed to be becoming increasingly difficult, at the same time as it became more necessary, to get decisions, Lord Carrington, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said when he addressed the European Parliament in Strasbourg on events of the last six months when the United Kingdom has held the presidency of the EEC.

Following up the speech made yesterday by the Prime Minister, Lord Carrington said the time which a presidency had at its disposal to realize even the most modest of its objectives was limited.

It was not to the Community's credit that they had been unable to meet the deadline set by the May 30 mandate, nor that after six years of discussion and five meetings of finance ministers during the British presidency alone they had not been able to agree on the non-life insurance services directive. Foreign ministers had been unable to agree on important measures relating to telecommunications because of disagreement over one word.

We have tried to demonstrate (he went on) the tenacity and endurance which are needed in every presidency, but even they are not enough if there is no common will to reach conclusions and that is what I fear has too often been lacking in our deliberations.

It was sometimes said that the Community made no progress, and that the Council of Ministers was indecisive. The record of the past six months, like that of previous presidencies, showed how far from the truth that was as progress had been encouraging in areas such as environment, social and energy policies, which were still relatively new sectors for EEC activity.

There remained many things which they would have liked to have done during the United Kingdom presidency and some important outstanding problems remained. He had no doubt that they could find solutions to these questions and he committed the British government to giving the Belgian presidency (which begins on January 1) every support it could in this task.

Lord Carrington, in the section of his speech devoted to political cooperation between the 10 member states, referred to the situation in Poland, stating that in the 48 hours since the foreign ministers met in London the Polish skies had continued to darken. They were, alas, too familiar with natural disasters but here in the heart of the Continent was a man-made disaster on a colossal scale.

Although news was censored, communications cut and diplomatic facilities suspended, they read of arrests, detentions and evictions. There had almost certainly been some loss of life. There was an ominous silence about the fate of Lech Walesa.

He would not want to see the situation made more difficult by any words of his but two things seemed clear. First and foremost, there must be no foreign interference whatever. Second, there must be an early resumption of the process of negotiation and conciliation including release of those in detention which alone could produce a solution of Poland's problems.

He noted that assurances on this subject were given yesterday (Wednesday) in Warsaw by what was called the military council of national salvation. The world would be watching to see how those assurances were put into effect. The 10 would continue to follow events closely and were ready to hold urgent consultations if it became necessary.

Lord Carrington said that on the four issues on which progress had not been made on the May 30 mandate he believed good foundations had been laid for future work and it would be for the Belgian presidency to carry matters forward.

Although useful progress had been made over marketing, overall agreement on a new common fisheries policy had still to be reached. It was long overdue. The security and prosperity of the fishing industry in all countries was at stake.

Although some headway had been made, the Community had made disappointingly little progress towards full liberalization in insurance and air transport. The agreement reached on energy pricing policy would be a valuable contribution to attaining the agreed Community energy objectives.

The economic background to work in the past six months had been sombre. Unemployment had risen remorselessly in even the strongest of their economies. Inflation was proving stubborn. Divergence among Community states had increased rather than diminished.

We must redouble our efforts (he went on) to create the conditions for that non-inflationary growth which is the only source of durable employment. We must resist the easy but fatal options of protectionism. We must ensure that the challenge of competition in the 1980s requires us to adapt our economies.

Television

Witty investigation of the party line

"Heeza my boy friend", explained The Great Verdini, Children's Entertainer, fetching a large doll with rolling gobstopper eyes from a well-worn case. "Only heeza very naughty boy, heeza winking on the girls." Pause, as small, worldly London faces — but not that worldly — question the outrage to come: they are to tell The Great V the split-second misbehaviour occurs. "*Did* he? Did he winking?" "YES!" came the shrill chorus accompanied by rude farty noises and boos.

All very different in Gloucestershire, where Lucy, Nicky and their guests waited for Mrs Tiggywinkle (who had secretly changed in the car, parked well out of sight by the stables) to emerge from the copse behind the dam and trot up the field to the house, where she proceeded to take charge with a blend of extempore Edwardian courtesies and wandering melodic line.

The cinematography of Philip Bonham Carter, whether he directs films or merely photographs them for other directors, is distinguished by a patience, intimacy and gentleness which newer become sentimental: he keeps his cool and is often very funny. *Children's Parties* was characteristic, and brought the first half of Roger Mills's exceptional Forty Minutes (BBC 2) series of documentaries to an exhilarating close (there will be 13 more in the New Year).

I do not believe in instant classics, but I would hazard a guess that this breathtaking programme might prove to be one. Eight celebratory and bizarrely varied occasions were presented without commentary or extraneous soundtrack, and photographed and edited, respectively by Anthony Bragg and Graham Shipman, with a confidence which gave essentially spontaneous material a firm yet fluent shape.

Bonham Carter rode the switchback of English class, culture and environment as smoothly as if it were not there — thus, of course, revealing its structure to perfection. From upper crust Gloucestershire we plunged (if that is the word) to Juliette Cottle's circus birthday in the family big top, with lots of old-fashioned rowdy, dashabout games on chairs. Up we went again to prep school in Oxford, where Charlie Robarts received a cricket-pitch cake with thick green icing and shared crumbling corners of the outfield with little chums all learning to behave like their fathers; and then down, very sharply, to Skindle's Disco, where the potential Pretty Babies of Maidenhead and Slough are joyfully hurtled into premature adolescence by a process called a Complete Entertainment Package applied wih standardized thoroughness to Debbie, Melina and Tina alike.

Best of all was Dominic Sewell's Violin Party, where infant phenomena in north-west London were induced to pursue an elaborate floor game of cards and memorabilia in which personal standards of musical performance were the criterion of success. The most vicious penalty you could incur was "Play opponent's choice of Vivaldi", and several children ran into the garden as one tiny virtuoso after another emulated the sound said by Rufolf Serkin to have been drawn from his fiddle by Einstein himself: *skreek-skreek-skreek*.

There was a quick coda round three other parties — *fête champêtre* by a lake, jelly high tea in a semi, and more than a mile of tables, tumblers and Toby dogs playing dead in Oxford Street for the Royal Wedding — and a delicious, touching and witty film came to an end. It deserves great success all round the world.

Michael Ratcliffe

Dance

Romeo and Juliet

Covent Garden

Jennifer Penney has had to wait a long time for her first Juliet, which finally came at Covent Garden on Wednesday. It is not surprising that her singularly limpid style, which lets the movements speak for themselves without imposing a heavy personal interpretation on them, should have led to her being cast often in roles where her smooth, flowing technique was the prime consideration. But she has several times shown that her limpidity can work equally well to display a dramatic role, and this was no exception.

The childishness of the heroine in the opening scenes of MacMillan's ballet does little for Penney; this is where the dancer needs to force credibility into an improbable situation, and that is probably not within her range. The second act of the work has little for Juliet, so it was in the last third of the evening that she really made a strong impact.

Surprisingly, the quality she brought out most strongly in Juliet was vehemence: in the way she grappled Romeo to her in an effort to prevent his leaving, in her anger at her father's bullying, even in the way she finally stabbed herself. Her face keeps its placid surface however hard she tries to express feelings through it, but her body and limbs positively hurl the dramatic meaning at the audience.

In that respect, Wayne Eagling makes an apt Romeo for her. He is not the subtlest of actors, nor the most polished of dancers, but he throws himself into the part with a wholehearted abandon which thrills the audience. Two of the other male soloists were new to me in their roles: Ashley Page as a tearaway Benvolio who finds a heart when Mercutio (the admirable Stephen Jefferies) dies, and Derek Deane as a sly-eyed Tybalt, handsomely sinister; but I would have expected more forcefulness from so big a man.

The production is in a scrupulously well maintained condition, even to the extent that the rhythms of the opening crowd scene appear to be have been roughened up to make them more natural. In spite of that care in presentation, and the marked animation of the ensemble players, the surroundings are all decoration; only the central characters count for much. That is one reason why MacMillan's ballets sometimes work better on television than on stage, as his *Isadora*, postponed from Wednesday night, will doubtless show when eventually screened.

John Percival

Cinema

Lumet's sophisticated view of corruption

Prince of the City (X)
Warner West End 3

Lady Chatterley's Lover (X)
Leicester Square Theatre

Arthur (AA)
Warner West End 2

The Eye of the Needle (AA)
Odeon, Leicester Square

Heavy Metal (AA)
Selected Odeons and Classics



Toughness and moral fragility: Treet Williams in "Prince of the City"

Sidney Lumet arrived from television a quarter of a century ago, bursting portentously into films with his still admirable *Twelve Angry Men*. Since then his career has been uneven, embracing the awful (*The Wiz*), the kind of art-that-is-seen-to-be-done (*The Pawnbroker, Long Day's Journey Into Night*), the dully conventional (*The Seagull, Murder on the Orient Express, Equus*), the flashy and meretricious (*Network*). There is no question of his energy, though, or that his best work has fairly consistently been in films, like *Serpico* and *Dog Day Afternoon*, located and shot in his native New York and with realist subjects.

Prince of the City is very much a companion piece to *Serpico*, set in the same locale and period (the early Seventies), firmly based on facts, and again about a policeman informing on corruption in the force. The book on which the film is based is the story of Bob Leuci, a New York detective assigned to the elite Special Investigation Unit — fancy rather than plain-clothes policemen, with special duties, special privileges and special opportunities for profitable sidelines.

Leuci, however, was recruited as an undercover agent for the federal investigation into police corruption and links with the Mafia. His initial condition was that he would not be required to inform upon his own friends and colleagues; but his story exemplifies how this kind of involvement has the same ineluctable quicksand quality that is traditionally credited to a life of crime. Whimsically one of the characters in the film quotes De Quincey: "If once a man indulges himself in murder, very soon he comes to think little of robbing, and from robbing he comes next to drinking and Sabbath-breaking."

Leuci found himself not only betraying his own friends, but entering the confessional himself (it is no accident, Lumet points out, that a Catholic should best suit the job). Ostracized by his colleagues, hunted by the Mafia whose operations his revelations had disrupted, Leuci and his family ended up dependent on day and night bodyguards.

Lumet and his co-scenarist Jay Presson Allen call their hero Ciello; other characters are combined and synthesized; even this lengthy, complex narrative is a drastic simplification of Leuci's adventures. Still, there is no reason to question the authenticity of the story; indeed, a large part of the dialogue is actual transcript from the hours of tape recorded from the miniature radio transmitter Leuci wore concealed on his person.

Treat Williams's Ciello-Leuci is creditable and credible. He is charming; but the real Leuci himself could hardly have succeeded without being pretty ingratiating. He conveys the necessary combination of toughness and moral fragility, of outward brashness and inner timidity. Lumet, whose most accomplished and sophisticated work this may well be, presents all the complex moral issues, all the fuzzed distinctions between law and crime, ends and means; but strenuously resists the temptations of easy judgment or tidy dramatic conclusion.

It would be an error, and foolish snobbery, to underestimate Just Jaeckin's merits as film-maker simply because he established his career with *Emmanuelle* and *L'histoire d'O* and has now made **Lady Chatterley's Lover** under the auspices of Messrs Golan and Globus, producers not very remarkable for taste or discrimination. *Lady Chatterley's Lover* is, in this context, an agreeable surprise. It is weighed down neither by the literary pretensions that have dogged other Lawrence adaptations nor by the soft-core eroticism that has become the director's speciality.

The adaptation (Jaeckin and his English co-scenarist Christopher Wicking have gone back to Lawrence's first version, *The First Lady Chatterley*) is a well-structured melodrama, which puts a keen new edge on the class element in Lawrence's fable. The film has pace and brio; the characters, if not deep, are sharply drawn; the period and the atmosphere of a great country house (played by Wrotham Park), in the tough times between wars, is finely evoked; and the erotiism is skilful, discreet, germane — and genuinely erotic. To any objection that it is not exactly Lawrence, the answer is: Why should it be, since we already have Lawrence, whereas this is a picture, and a lively one at that?

Like her director, Sylvia Kristel shows that *Emmanuelle* did not exhaust all her resources. Her voice is dubbed, so well as positively to enhance the performance. Nicholas Clay is a suitably rugged and enticing Mellors; Shane Briant's Sir Clifford intimates neuroses not quite concealed by the surfaces of gentlemanly behaviour; and Ann Mitchell is a wonderfully ambivalent Mrs Bolton. For the record, this is only the second film version of the book: the first, also released by Columbia Pictures, was made in France in 1956 with Danielle Darrieux and Leo Genn. The noble lady's name was, however, taken in vain from time to time in porno pictures of the Seventies boom.

Eighty years or so ago, in Berlin, Vienna, Budapest or Paris, the operetta kings and operetta hacks kept turning out the same old story about the prince who falls in love with a showgirl or shopgirl or some other social inferior. His father and the inevitable dowager granny threaten to disinherit him if he does not marry the princess of their choice; but love finds a way.

Arthur is the same old tale, except that, since there are no princes in America, Arthur is heir to a billion-dollar hierarchy. The girl he loves (Liza Minnelli) is both showgirl and shop-lifter. To prove that audiences are as good natured as ever and that you cannot keep an old story down, *Arthur*, with its supremely happy end (he gets the girl *and* the money), has proved one of the biggest American box-office successes of the year.

Dudley Moore, as Arthur, does a prolonged drunk scene; and nobody bothers to explain why an all-American family should spawn this middle-aged cockney elf who lapses in his cups into the speech fashions of Steptoe Junior. John Gielgud, as Arthur's scathing but doting valet, provides the film's best comic bits, handling the four-letter vulgarities of the script with the air of a charitable visitor sorting the soiled linen in a slum home. The film was both written and directed by a newcomer, Steve Gordon.

There is something very old-world, too, about **The Eye of the Needle**; indeed the antiquity of the plot — it is the kind of thing John Buchan and/or the British Hitchcock did better — quite positively strengthens the period atmosphere. The story is set in the Second World War. Donald Sutherland is a German spy with a radio transmitter in his bedroom, and Kate Nelligan (a charming actress deserving of better things) is the wife of a fighter-pilot who is bitter and resentful because he crippled himself in a car crash before he could get into the war.

These three find themselves thrown together on a remote Scottish island which enjoys conveniently sympathetic weather (sunshine for romantic picnics, arctic storms for shipwrecks and high drama). There is a violent dénouement and a happy ending, leaving us to marvel that Ian Bannen and the British security forces, having taken four years to pursue the villain from London to Scotland, finally manage to arrive in the nick of time. It was directed by Richard Marquand, who rises best to the action sequences.

Heavy Metal must set some kind of record for the length of its credits. A thousand people are said to have worked on this episodic animation feature, which takes its title from a popular American fantasy magazine. Teams of various nationalities provided individual stories, coordinated by Gerald Potterton and with an overall screenplay by Dan Goldberg and Len Blum, writers of the execrable *Meat Balls*. The linking motif is a luminous green jewel, "the sum of all evil".

The pity is that all the effort and craft is applied to tales of fantasy that have less cohesion and direction than the standard comic strip. It is all pop mysticism, pepped up with sex and violence, sado-masochism and burgeoning female sex-machines that should inflame the resentment of the mildest feminist. There is a strong musical score by Elmer Bernstein, with hard rock interpolations. The result is the sort of vision that is probably very stirring when viewed in a narcotic-induced high; but, contrarily, in that condition the animation talent so prodigally expended is liable to be overlooked.

David Robinson

Theatre

A vein of comedy

Dracula

Albery

"Blood confusions" is Dr Van Helsing's prescription in *Dracula*, Michael Bogdanov's gory Christmas show now at the Albery Theatre for matinees. With the subtitle "A Pain in the Neck"; with a "bat mat" at the entrance to the auditorium which has been impregnated with garlic to protect the soles of the spectators; with the sale of gingerbread crosses for the very nervous; it is quickly obvious how seriously Mr Bogdanov has approached this tale of terror.

For the extremely nervous there are even chunks of raw garlic for the asking, and the eating, but, as Count Dracula points out, a vampire who has been the king of the undead for 400 years is unlikely to be disposed of by breathy a audience singing "Men of Garlic".

Still, sing they do, adults and children, also blowing baleful breath at the dreaded bloodsucker and leaning back in their seats to wave their feet in the air. Mr Bogdanov has returned to his coarsest frolics for this year's romp, resurrecting his company of extrovert players who made last year's *Canterbury Tales* such a diversion to play the gang of vampires and vampire hunters.

For what he aims to do, which is not very much beyond supplying slapstick for the adults and sophisticated puns for the children, he achieves just the right rowdy balance to tell the story and make room for the shouts from the audience.

It could all be better, if Mr Bogdanov and his collaborator, Phil Woods, had sought a greater degree of storytelling in their text. Although there is gore, with the severing of heads and bloody serving dishes, there is no terror to speak of and the comedy is at one frenetic level. It moves between the two moods of comedy and light menace with a fine balance that shows how little was done to develop their idea of an amateur performance of the play invaded by the real Dracula. Yet the players entertain with the enthusiasm of puppies, and Anthony Milner, Anthony Smee, John Labanowski, Micky O'Donoughue and the others are a welcome band of eccentrics.

Ned Chaillet

Captain Beaky's Musical Christmas

Apollo

In subways, and on walls and pavements, wherever graffiti grow, there suddenly appeared the legend: "Hissing Sid was here." For those without a devotion to the disc jockey Noel Edmonds, it was something of a mystery. He had championed a song by Jeremy Lloyd which told of a merry band of birds, bats, toads and rats and their adventures with the snake, Hissing Sid. Listeners reported sightings and from little cults a major industry has grown.

Two record albums, two television specials, Captain Beaky books and now a BBC-sponsored excursion into the West End theatre are the fruits of Mr Lloyd's labours, and Jim Parker's musical settings for his endearing series of poems have attracted such performers as Peter Sellers, Harry Secombe, Petula Clark and Penelope Keith. If there were no merits to the childhood rhymes, the West End would still be a brighter place for the ensnared talents of Keith Michell, Twiggy, Eleanor Bron and Mr Lloyd as they read, sing and dance the stories. But the rhymes have the merit of enchantment.

Enchantment is also a quality that comes with the appearance of Twiggy, who has become an irresistible performer: a singer with a sweet expressive voice, and elegance of movement and a poignancy in her speech. When she sings of Fred the Cockney sparrow and his French bird, Marguerite, she runs the range of emotions from sorrow and happiness to nostalgic regret: these nursery rhymes bear full adult emotions in her performance, and they bring laughter.

Mr Michell has illustrated the performance with drawings and sketches of wit: at times he brings the operatic range of his voice to the impersonation of a canary and Miss Bron contributes several of her accents in speech and song with precise applications of humour. It is a singing, dancing, joking concert against sensitive musical arrangements but a fly that can do *The Times* crossword deserves a less sticky end than Mr Lloyd allows.

Ned Chaillet

Opera

Musgrave in time-honoured style

A Christmas Carol

Sadler's Wells

As in previous years, the Royal Opera has staged a Christmas production outside Covent Garden. Earlier shows were operas chiefly for children. Thea Musgrave's version of Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* has some children in the cast, but more adults. It is likely to appeal to both categories during its performances for the rest of this week, at Sadler's Wells in Rosebery Avenue, and on Radio 3 on New Year's Day.

It tells the story quite clearly, to unpretentious, evocative music, largely traditional in idiom. The scenery, costumes and production brought to London from Norfolk, Virginia, where the work was first given two Christmases ago, work well; the English cast (some roles change hands during the week), with the original American Scrooge, is intelligently chosen, and the London Sinfonietta play the score handsomely for Peter Mark, another importation from Virginia, who conducted the première and is the composer's husband.

Those who know Dickens's story must admire Musgrave's adaptation, for the number of characters she contrives to include, by much duplication of parts — Elizabeth Bainbridge sings Mrs Fezziwig, Mrs Cratchit, and three other parts.

I admire too Musgrave's feeling for the character of the book, evinced in the scenes chosen, and the text added to what Dickens gave her in the way of dialogue. You may feel, as I did, that the second half dwells longer on its content than the first, or else that, if some earlier scenes, such as the separation of Belle and Ben, had been less extended (it contains some of the most attractive music), the later ones might not have hung fire. At the very end we need less of Fred's Christmas party and rather more of the Cratchits'.



Frederick Burchinal (left) and Robin Leggate

The Spirit of Christmas is dramatically interpreted by one dancer, Murray Melvin, just as Marley's Ghost is a spoken role: both are extravagantly projected, and Melvin's florid-camp Christmas cannot easily be taken seriously.

Musgrave's music for *A Christmas Carol* retreats, even more firmly than in her preceeding opera, *Mary Queen of Scots*, from the firmly time-orientated idiom of her instrumental music dramas (the concertos for clarinet and for horn, for example) or *The Voice of Ariadne*, which seems to me her finest opera.

It can be only coincidence that she has made this step backward, in terms of musical language, alongside Iain Hamilton, another Scot resident in the United States, whose *Anna Karenina*, at the Colisium recently, also indulged in backward musical time-travelling. She makes the journey more discreetly than he, using "God rest ye merry, gentlemen" as a structural lynchpin, and writing cheerful, companionable music for the party scenes.

The part of *Scrooge* is a gratifying one for a strong character-baritone, as Frederick Burchinal left no doubt (Jonathan Summers shares it with him): it has the drawback that, for most of the action, he is personally uninvolved, a mere spectator of the past events which have caused his present unsociability. Burchinal, and his producer, David Farrar, skilfully keep this obstacle largely out of mind.

Farrar makes it a jolly, colourful, Christmas show, the crowd scenes properly festive and energetic, much of the credit due to Miguel Romero's practical, mobile, pleasing scenery. Sandra Dugdale is a delicious Fanny, Eiddwen Harrhy a rather prim but sympathetic Belle. Robin Leggate is just the tenor for Bob Cratchit, and Forbes Robinson looks properly Dickensian in several parts, though his big, red moustache does not suit Mr Fezziwig, especially when John Leech's ideal portrait is printed on the programme cover.

I will not decry Musgrave's *Christmas Carol*: it has almost everything in its favour, given expert presentation. I hope she will write another serious opera, more representative of her particular creative talent, very soon.

William Mann

Der Rosenkavalier

Coliseum

"Not a night is too long", says Ochs eagerly at the end of the second act. He was not, of course, referring to nights at the opera; but the thought flickered through my mind that, of those, this particular one is apt to contradict him except in the most stylish of performances.

The ENO production, originally by John Copley, is not without style, but it used to have more of it, more surely deployed than it is mow. Much of the action is still happily keyed to the gestures in which Strauss's score abounds, but not with the consistency or the point that once distinguished the production. And that is perhaps particularly evident in a performance like this one, conducted by Charles Mackerras with so very sharp a feeling for detail. His ear for texture, for what is happening at every instant, and for its implications, is so acute as to demand the most precise equivalent; with a little short of that, one was left wondering if it was almost over-conducted.

It was, however, strongly cast. This revival was dedicated to the memory of Harold Blackburn, and, as Ochs, there was the polished Richard Van Allan, catching well the blend — which some find elusive — of coarsely hungry sexuality and the demeanour of a nobleman, albeit a rural one. He sings his music with the ease and the manner of a voluble conversationalist. Then there was Lois McDonall repeating her Marschallin, a role to which she brings the proper admixture of passion and poise, and much of the proper vocal glow — also the capacity to lighten her voice, as she tellingly did in her reflective music ending Act I, and to lend it an autumnal fullness, as at "Hab mir's gelobt".

The Octavian and Sophie were new. There is a lot to admire and enjoy in Sally Burgess's performance: the eager, ardent boyishness in the first act, innocent in the best sense; the tasteful acting (though exaggerated accent, especially in the lachrymose spell in Act III) as Mariandl; the growing command in the second act, the new depth and richness in the third. She uses her firm, distinctive mezzo with much intelligence.

Laureen Livingstone, although handicapped by a cold, made a charming and spirited Sophie, silvery in voice, with some sweet, pure high notes, and lovely to look at, too. Also new was Graham Clark's smooth, well sustained, rather forceful Italian tenor. Eric Shilling's Faninal, if a little short of music in his voice, makes up for it with sense of character. David Walker's settings have lost some of their glitter, but suggest old Vienna effectively enough.

Stanley Sadie



Cheap fares subsidised by the rates were ruled illegal by the Law Lords yesterday in a case brought against the Greater London Council. But public transport in the congested big cities must compete with private cars. How do other cities do it? Michael Baily reports.

Who can unravel the big city knot?

The Lords may have settled the legal dispute over the Greater London Council's cheap fares policy, but the larger questions remain. How high should London's fares be, and how much should they be subsidised? Those are essentially political and economic questions, and cannot be settled by judges. If necessary the law will have to be changed to allow the political judgments to be made.

When they are, it will perhaps be found that the Labour GLC was travelling in broadly the right direction, but took a disastrously wrong route. The direction was right because it sought to make more attractive a public transport system which the capital needs to function well, and that might without positive steps become steadily less so.

The route was wrong because it piled a huge burden on the rates merely to bring about cheaper fares rather than to provide the better transport service Londoners would have valued more.

It was a costly, wasteful, and inefficient way to achieve a good end; and that is perhaps because the Labour caucus was guided more by electoral than transport calculations.

Car commuting will always be cheaper

Some good may come of the dispute however, if as a result the damaging extent of the polarization of transport policy in London is perceived, and a start made towards a more bipartisan policy of positive, consistent development of the system.

On the Continent, to whose example our attention is constantly being directed, this polarization between high and low fares and public and private transport hardly exists.

Roads and public transport are improved together, and the various modes integrated rather than put in conflict.

It was once so here, and could be so again given the political will. For, contrary to the impression given by Lord Denning and others in recent weeks, the subsidising of public transport has been accepted policy in Britain for nearly 20 years, and was in fact started not by Labour but the Conservatives.

This happened in a watershed year, 1963, when the rise in postwar cars reached the point at which previous profitable public transport was rendered unviable; and when two seminal contributions to the debate that still continues appeared.

One was the famous *Traffic in Towns* or Buchanan Report, which enunciated that since the capacity of towns to accommodate traffic was finite, the authorities had a choice between accommodating it at heavy expense in new roads and other structures, or limiting it through parking and other restrictions on road traffic. Relatively cheap and convenient public transport, for which subsidy would be necessary, was one of the most important instruments of the latter policy.

The other was Foster and Beesley's Victoria Line Study into LT's cherished plan for a new tube; that had already been turned down in three successive years because its £60m cost could not be justified by potential revenue.

The study showed that if social benefits — time savings, greater convenience, reduced congestion — were taken into account, the scheme showed a handsome profit. Over a third of the benefit would go to people who were not even using the line — road users suffering less congestion.

The Victoria Line was built, and from then on public transport in London and elsewhere went steadily into the red, with the more or less reluctant approval of various politicians. It was a process embraced more systematically, if not more whole-heartedly, on the Continent than here.

Such statistics lend credence to the tendency in Britain to equate Continental practice with virtue, and British (at any rate under the Conservatives) with vice.

This overlooks the undoubted fact that fares subsidies are a costly and inefficient way of helping public transport, and that these policies in Europe were not deliberately virtuous or even necessarily deliberate.

Often, as in Britain, they were the result of management weakness in the face of over-manning and union intransigence, and of political reluctance to impose unpopular fare rises to pay for it.

Continental administrations have been increasingly unhappy about the huge cost of fares subsidies, especially in the past three years. Further doubt on the effectiveness of subsidies alone as a means of influencing urban transport is cast by an expert study carried out by Britain's Transport and Road Research Laboratory for the European Conference of Transport Ministers in 1979.

One of its more startling conclusions based on analyses from 12 European states and additional data from the United States, Canada, and New Zealand, was that even if buses were free, car commuting would still be "cheaper" for many people if the kind of social benefits used for the Victoria Line study were taken into account.

For a two kilometre journey to work, the cost of a car came out at 14p, compared with 44p for the bus at normal fares; over 5 km it was 24p for the car and 55p for the bus; over 15 km it was 57p for the car and 91p for the bus.

In London the lack of productivity seems particularly evident. LT's workforce remained static at about 60,000 throughout the 1970s despite the introduction of one-man buses and trains, and a drop of about one tenth in bus passenger-miles and nearly a fifth in tube passenger-miles. Productivity in Paris appears to be nearly double that in London, with each staff member producing about 170,000 passengers miles compared with 90,000 in London. No wonder Sir Horace Cutler was concerned to unearth shift-workers at LT garages who spent the entire night in bed.

Paris has cheaper public transport than London, but more importantly it is better. Not only is the Metro now more frequent, clean, and reliable, but interchange between modes is so much better, as are ticket arrangements and information to passengers. This is the fruit of many years of high capital investment, consistent policy, and dedicated management, as well as a cheap fares policy. Above all perhaps it is the fruit of an integrated policy towards transport rather than the adversarial one that has developed in London.

Although many different interests are involved in both the planning and operation of transport in Paris, they have worked well together under a hierarchical system President Mitterrand is apparently to change.

Capital investment has been in the hands of a regional body headed by a Prefect, a civil servant appointed by the Head of State; and his experts are required to plan on the basis of complementarity between roads and public transport, with priority for the latter. Of a current budget of £240m, some £140m is being spent of roads, and £100m on public transport infrastructure.

The fact is, as the Prefect of Paris told me recently: "Public transport is very costly. We have a very good system, but a very bad financial system, which must be changed."

It is clear after the events of recent weeks that London must change too, from the opposite direction as it were, to get back to the consistent policies that made London Transport the world's greatest urban transport system in the 1930s.

It can be done, and significant progress has been made at one level by LT's current chairman Sir Peter Masefield who has greatly improved the quality of management since being appointed by the Conservatives 16 months ago. But this year he and his team have once again, as so often in the past, had their energies diverted into coping with a wild gyration of policy in whose permanence given the swings and roundabouts of the GLC, they can have little confidence.

One way to escape from the trap would be to admit that GLC politicians are too small-minded to cope with such a large responsibility. But to return the problem of London Transport to Department of Transport control might produce not only more consistency, but also the torpor which seemed to afflict it before.

Another solution would be a Passenger Transport Authority responsible for all forms of transport in the Greater London area as in the provincial conurbations. But this could spawn yet another empire-building bureaucracy, topped by politicians still pursuing sectional interests.

People will pay for service

It should not be necessary to set up a large unwieldy body to achieve the kind of integrated thinking that has prevailed elsewhere; it is primarily a change in attitude rather than structure that is needed, with closer collaboration between central and local government, and between the different operators.

London Transport and British Rail have already shown the way with a new joint "think tank" chaired by the two Sir Peters, charged with integrating ticketing, timetables interchange, and fares. It should be possible for Whitehall and County Hall to work similarly towards agreed objectives.

What should these be? Obviously fares and subsidies will always be a point or friction between left and right, but something closer to consensus should be possible if it is put down the scale of priorities where it belongs.

Professor Christopher Foster, coauthor of the Victoria Line study, says: "Current policy is a logical development of Victoria Line thinking in that it recognizes that cheap fares can be used to get traffic from cars to public transport.

"But although the principle is surely right, subsidies can be overdone. One has to say that the level of subsidies London now has is probably rather ineffective, especialy in the absence of parking and traffic restraints."

The fallacy of the Labour GLC was to put every thing into one policy, and not the best one at that. Naturally people prefer to pay 10p for something than 30p; but many were quite prepared to pay 30p, especially if the service is good. All the market research shows passenger preference to be for reliability, frequency, punctuality, convenience, comfort, cleanliness, rather than cheapness.

One million pounds spent on reducing intervals between buses and trains, on better connections between them, and on the resources that ensure they actually turn up at the advertised time, is better spent than on a marginal cut in fares (LT's 30 per cent cut has produced little over ten per cent mor passengers).

These should be the orities of a new trar regime, along with ca planned road impro and the tougher rest... in car commuting advocated all that time ago by Buchanan.

When sound steps have been taken to develop a more attractive and integrated transport system for London, it will be possible to take a more informed view as the optimum level of fares and subsidies.

No doubt it will fall somewhere between Cutler and Livingstone; a level that recognizes both the benefits of cheap fares and the heavy financial burden they impose on other aspects of the life of the capital; a level perhaps that is both social and democratic.

Michael Baily is The Times Transport Correspondent.



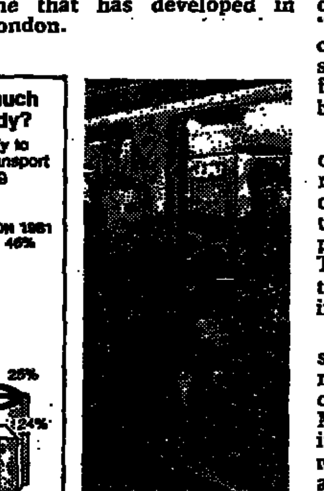
FARES FAIR 10p 20p 30p 40p
Four new low bus fares
Four new fare zones

Ken Livingstone appealed against Lord Denning's ruling and lost

London Transport: fare price per mile
ACTUAL PRICE
8p 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
1971 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81(est)

How London's fares compare
Current average fare levels (estimated pence per mile)
London 6.0 · Paris 5.2 · Hamburg 5.0

How much subsidy?
Subsidy to public transport 1979
70% 62% 56% 51% 51% 49% 36% 33% 25%
LONDON 1981 46%
Brussels, Barcelona, Paris, Helsinki, Philadelphia, Av. for 27 authorities, Zurich, Hamburg, Toronto, London, Glasgow



David Watt

Poland: where we differ from Reagan

The western alliance could come under new strain because of conflicting attitudes to the military take-over in Warsaw — America's instinctive desire for a tough response, pragmatic caution by her European partners

It has been widely assumed, especially in the United States, that a major crisis in Poland would reunite the western alliance more effectively than any number of blueprints and ministerial conferences. Five days of Polish military dictatorship have indicated how illusory that assumption is. The western powers have not exhibited the total disarray that followed the Afghanistan crisis and have officially managed so far to maintain a fairly uniform posture of "wait and see". What has been significant and alarming, however, is the divergence of underlying instincts and assumptions. The longer the crisis continues the more open and dangerous these dangers seem likely to become.

In general there are two different but equally valid ways of reacting to the Polish events. If one looks at the world in moral terms, what has happened is a tragedy about freedom, power and shattered hopes. The duty of the West is to register its outrage and punish the perpetrators to the full extent of its ability.

If one thinks in terms of global politics, however, the clampdown is more forgivable and may almost be seen a relief because it is a lesser evil than a fullscale Russian invasion. If the creation of a banana republic dictatorship is the only way the Poles can cling to the last tatters of national independence, it is a price worth paying.

It makes an important difference that the soldiers in the Warsaw streets are Polish rather than Russian, not just because the Poles themselves find it more tolerable to their pride but also because it does not violate the convention of national sovereignty and so gives us a legitimate excuse to avoid the slide back towards cold war that for other reasons we wish to avoid.

The moralist is entitled to point out that a lot of this is humbug. The reality is that the new regime would not have come into being and Solidarity would not have been snuffed out if it had not been for Russian pressure; that there is no serious prospect, whatever may be said at present, of the march to a more democratic policy in Poland being renewed under the new dispensation; and that a lot of people are now going to be incarcerated and probably subjected to inhuman treatment for political reasons directly connected with their attitude to the Soviet Union and the communist system.

The new regime is not government by consent; the only thing that can be said for it is that the amount of force required to squash out dissent is marginally smaller than if the Russians had done the job themselves. To this accusation *realpolitik* can only respond that while the distinctions may be unreal, it is a politically useful one. The idea of imposing economic and political sanctions on the new Poland is unattractive because it would drive the military still further into the arms of the Russians.

Still less appealing is the notion of equating the Poles with the Russians and unfolding the whole panoply of western sanctions prepared in case of Soviet intervention. Not only would that leave nothing for Nato leverage on the Russians; it would mean that all hopes of preventing a new arms race were abandoned.

The United States, perhaps from circumstances of its birth, has always had a strong moralist slant in its foreign policy. There was nothing new or startling in this sense about the behaviour and policies of President Wilson or President Carter. Equally, it is not surprising that President Reagan, after an initial period of pragmatic reserve, has evidently been assailed by growing doubts about how far he can allow the changes in Poland to occur without strong reaction. His desire to continue a dialogue with the Russians is at odds with his determination — and indeed his political necessity — to avoid any appearance of condoning communist repression.

The European reaction, overall, has been more in the *realpolitik* tradition. Of course there have been loud and entirely genuine denunciations of the Polish military action from EEC governments and even from western communist parties, and the tactical necessity of maintaining pressure on the Russians is very much in everyone's mind. Nevertheless the willingness to separate disapproval from strong action is discernible.

As usual, the West Germans are the hinge of the argument. Chancellor Schmidt was still in East Germany on his long heralded, long postponed fraternal visit to Erich Honecker when the Polish news broke. He quietly completed his programme and left for the West with expressions of hope for the future of inter-German relations. He was rapidly castigated by Herr Franz-Josef Strauss, whose advice that he should have stormed out in protest does not seem to have roused many echoes.

That is hardly surprising, given the prevailing climate (confirmed for me by a visit to Bonn last week). West German public opinion is deeply concerned about Poland, about East-West relations and about relations between Europe and the USA. But the essential core of the West German position in relation to the East remains untouched and virtually bi-partisan. This consists of three propositions:

(a). Detente is a good thing because it is the only condition that enables the two Germanys (and the two Berlins) to co-exist in a half civilized fashion.

(b). Detente, particularly East-West trade, creates as much East block dependency on the West as western dependency on the Soviet Union and should therefore be encouraged even under — perhaps particularly under — adverse political circumstances.

(c). West German belief in the two preceding propositions does not imply disloyalty to Nato, "neutralism", "self-Finlandization", a secret desire to sell out the alliance to the Russians in return for reunification or any of the other manifestations of paranoia now appearing in the American press. West Germany still depends on the US for its security and still believes in (and is paying for) a strong conventional army. As for reunification, the Russians themselves will not permit it on any terms for a century.

The trouble with these views is first that, being expressions of belief and perception, they cannot be permanently invalidated by what happens in Poland in the coming weeks any more than they were by events in Afghanistan. And second that there is not a single one of them that the present American administration endorses unreservedly.

If the Americans could only accept the validity of (c) it would not matter so much. The West Germans might be safely left to get as much out of their relationship with the East as they could (and it would not be very much) provided their military support for Nato continued. But the Americans in their present mood want more psychological reassurance than that, and because they rightly suspect that the rest of the European allies, already prone to excessive pragmatism and self-deception where East-West relations are concerned, are to a greater or less degree influenced by the German example, they lump us all together as unreliable.

If the Russians should march into Poland in a month or two as the Jaruzelski experiment founders there will be no difficulty for a while in imposing the American view on the alliance, but the cross-currents that have appeared in the last week will still be there and will surely reassert themselves quite quickly.

Tebbit dynamite that must be defused

by Bill Keys

On Wednesday I led a TUC delegation which met Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary of State for Employment, to impress on him the trade union movement's outright rejection of his proposed new industrial relations legislation. We spelt out our grave concern over the threat to workers' rights and industrial relations posed by his proposals, but Mr Tebbit gave no indication that the serious objections we raised would temper his approach.

I am not entirely surprised by this. The improvement of industrial relations seems to be well down the Employment Secretary's list of priorities — just like tackling unemployment. Instead, the motivation behind his proposals seems to be only to place swingeing legal restrictions on the ability of trade unions to organize and operate effectively, irrespective of the consequences for British industry.

I do not accept for a minute that there is force in the argument being used by the Government that its measures have the support of a majority of the population, still less a majority of trade unionists. I know all about *opinion* polls which are paraded as upholding that view but I know what the response of workers would be to the question of whether they approve action to reduce the rights of their unions and to curtail their ability to maintain their jobs.

When the realization of the dangers of this proposed *legislation sinks* in (and the unions and the TUC will be bending all their efforts to get the message across) I am convinced that there will be a sense of outrage and resentment among workers which will manifest itself in powerful *opposition* to these proposed laws.

The *Government* is clearly under-estimating the degree of opposition it will face. It is gambling on the trade union movement not being able to get a head of steam behind its campaign against the proposals such as occurred in 1970-71 against the Industrial Relations Bill. The Government is no doubt assuming that the movement has been weakened and demoralized by high unemployment and loss of membership. It is banking on the fact that its proposals are even more complex and difficult to grasp than the 1971 legislation.

But the main proposals in Mr Tebbit's package are dynamite. Any of them, if used, could blow a company's industrial relations sky-high.

Take the proposals attacking 100 per cent membership in a workplace. There is *already* substantial protection for an individual against being sacked because of non-membership of a *union*; under the Employment Act, 1980 a person dismissed for refusing to join a union on widely drawn conscientious grounds can claim unfair dismissal.

Now it is being *proposed* that a non-unionist could be entitled to up to £24,000 from union funds if he or she is dismissed and not reinstated. I *object* to this, firstly, because the Government is giving the impression that there is *widespread coercion* to join unions and frequent victimization of non-unionists. Not so. In fact, there are no more than a handful of such cases each year, as experience under the legislation from 1971 to 1976 showed.

Second, to offer up to £24,000 to anyone if they *display* their "principles" strongly enough to get sacked is a deliberate attempt *to give financial incentives* to people to leave or not to join unions. And to expect other workers to stand by *quietly* and see their union forced to pay amounts of this size to people who are being deliberately awkward or greedy is unrealistic. The inevitable result will be considerable dissension between workers on the shop and office floor and considerable bad blood, none of which will do British industry any good.





Mr Keys (left) and Mr Tebbit: "Still not too late to avoid an unnecessary conflict".

The second *main* plank in Mr Tebbit's plans aims to limit the rights of workers to take industrial action in a wide variety of circumstances — in essence, restricting lawful action to that taken by employees against their own employer over strictly defined terms and conditions of employment.

But restrictive though the proposals are, their effect is far from clear. It is difficult to say with any certainty just what industrial action would not cause a union to be taken to court. If a union loses a case it stands to pay heavy damages of, if it is a large union, up to £250,000.

It is not just that the union *would be liable for its own* action. It would be held responsible for the acts of any of its officials; not just full-time officials but all shop stewards and branch officers. Some large unions could therefore incur liability for the actions of any one of thousands of people.

Nor is it good enough to say that unions must control all their officials. Unions are democratic bodies which are — and which employers tell us they expect to be — responsive to the wishes of their members. They are not corporate institutions with *strong hierarchical* controls. While unions will always do their best to ensure that *agreements are observed, and* do so successfully every day in British industry, they are not — and cannot be — industry's policemen. The Government cannot force them to take on that role.

The author is general secretary of the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades and chairman of the TUC employment and organization committee.

Gallipoli: is the film fair to the British?

The Australian-made film Gallipoli, which opened in London a week ago to general critical approval, is creating controversy among historians. The Times asked Martin Gilbert, Winston Churchill's biographer, to assess its historical accuracy.

At the end of September 1915, *senior members of the* British Government received a copy of an extraordinary letter. *Its writer* was *Keith* Murdoch, an Australian journalist who had just reached London from the Dardanelles.

Murdoch had spent seven days on the Gallipoli peninsula, a month after the August battles in which 23,000 soldiers, many of them Australians and New Zealanders of the Anzac corps, had been killed in two short offensives. In his letter, Murdoch placed the blame for these deaths on "gross selfishness and complacency on the part of the Staff" — most of whom were British. Now, 66 years later, a film has been made of the campaign — co-produced by *Murdoch's* son, Rupert, after an Australian team had approached him with the idea.



The 1st Australian Brigade charge the Turkish line at Gallipoli, a sector of a battle depicted in 1915 as a "great Australian feat". An artist's impression from The Illustrated London News.

Gallipoli focuses on one sector of the battles, the attack by Australian forces on the Nek on August 7, in which 650 of the 7,250 who went over the top were killed within a few minutes — most within a few seconds — of leaving their trenches. It does not show the more *successful New Zealand* attack on the nearby Rhododendron Spur or the further battles *in which several* thousand British soldiers died.

The film revolves around the personal story of two young men, members of the Australian Light Horse — their friendship in Australia, Cairo and then Gallipoli itself. The events leading up to the campaign and the accusations of the Murdoch letter of 1915 are slipped in *only through casual remarks.*

But however casual, the burden of the elder Murdoch's charges is a heavy one, that while Australians were being massacred at the Nek in a futile assault on the Turkish trenches above Anzac Cove, further north at Suvla Bay, the British, for whom this alleged diversion had been laid on, had called a halt to their much less opposed landing and, instead *of following up their initial* success, were, as the film expresses it, "drinking cups *of tea*".

In fact the Australian attack on the Nek was not *intended as a diversion* for the British to the north but was part of the Anzac commander's own plan to help the advance of the New Zealanders on the same front.

There is considerable truth, however, in the film's charge of lethargy at Suvla Bay — as there was in Keith Murdoch's charges, subsquently borne out by evidence presented to the Dardanelles Commission of Inquiry. When Winston Churchill's younger brother Jack landed at Suvla Bay two days after the initial battle, he reported home that the commander of the 11th Division during the landing "seemed apathetic", and that "the apathy of the senior *officers had spread to the* men".

The Commander-in-Chief *himself, Sir Ian Hamilton,* had been equally shocked by the lethargy of his divisional commanders. So also had an emissary from London, Colonel Hankey (then Secretary to the inner Cabinet). "It is *most annoying,*" *wrote* Lord Kitchener, War Secretary, when he heard of the *lethargy* of the commanders, and he added: "I am taking steps to have these generals replaced by real fighters as quickly as possible."

As a result of Kitchener's distress, the 61-year-old corp commander at Suvla was relieved of his command on August 16, and the commander of the 11th Division *was removed a few days* later. But by then it was too late. The Turks, directed by *their master tactician,* Mustafa Kemel Pasha, (later, as Atuturk, ruler of post-war *Turkey*) *had* reinforced all their positions.

Kitchener, in London, ordered a further offensive. It took place at Sulva Bay on August 21, 10 days before Murdoch reached the peninsula, *and was a repetition of* the disaster of August 6. Now it was the turn of the British troops to be the *principal* sufferers. The film makes no reference to this further offensive.

Sir Ian Hamilton decided to launch the attack in the afternoon so that the infantry could advance with the sun on their backs, and with the defenders blinded by its glare. But soon after midday the *sun disappeared* behind *a* bank of cloud, while the Turkish positions were hid*den by the haze. The* prelimi*nary* artillery bombardment failed to touch the Turkish front line.

Hardly had the attack begun than most battalions lost their officers, and many their guides. The result was confusion. Of the 14,300 men who took part in the fighting around the first low hill more than 5,000 had been killed or wounded by nightfall.

By August 28 the troops at Anzac and Sulva, Australians, British and others, had exhausted their energy. No further attack was possible. The Turks remained in control of the high ground, and despite their own severe losses, maintained their dominance over the peninsula.

It was then that the British Government began to contemplate a possible evacuation. But Colonel Hankey, *who had just returned to* London, told the inner Cabinet he believed there was "good ground for hoping for another success in the Anzac region".

It was on September 22, as this debate continued, that Murdoch reached London. On the following day he wrote his letter, describing *the August battle* as a "costly and bloody fiasco, because, in addition to wretched Staff work, the troops sent were inadequate and of most uneven quality".

Murdoch's criticism were received with a certain scepticism. On reading his letter, Winston Churchill described its accusations as "the malicious charges of an irresponsible newspaper man". But the doubts so bluntly *expressed by Murdoch* were already widely held, and within two months, the decision to withdraw was made.

Both Suvla and Anzac were evacuated on December 20. In all, in less than eight weeks, 34,000 British and Empire troops and 10,000 French troops had been killed. The Turks had lost more than 80,000 men. Since then, only decaying trenches and beautifuly tended *war* graves attest on the peninsula itself to the cruel event, *of which this film is a* poignant reminder.

Martin Gilbert

THE TIMES DIARY

Graham Whettam, the British composer, has over the years had a somewhat turbulent relationship with the BBC. He once accused Auntie of banning a substantial number of his works without giving a reason and at another time complained that the Beeb had alleged he had written his own fan mail. Now he is at odds with the corporation yet again over the mysterious postponement of his Clarinet Concerto.

The new concerto was scheduled for performance by the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra at the Henry Wood Concert Hall, Glasgow, on January 8, with the young clarinettist Geraldine Allen as soloist and Sir Charles Groves conducting. However, Whettam has just received a letter from the BBC with blunt news of the postponement. He says no satisfactory explanation was given and, that "there is something distinctly odd about it."

It could have been an administrative clanger but Whettam's fear is that it may be connected with the fact that he recently took part, critically, in the debate in The Listener *on the administration of the Proms. Yesterday a BBC spokesman in Glasgow told me that though there was "a very good reason" for postponing the performance, he was not prepared to disclose it. Paul Hamburger, a chief music producer for BBC Radio, simply hung up.*

David Irving's sarcastic farewell to an old enemy

An extraordinary feud between David Irving, the right-wing historian, and Maurice Ludmer, the veteran anti-fascist who died earlier this year from a heart attack, threatens to continue beyond the grave. Irving, whose book *Hitler's War* "exonerated" the Führer from any part in the *extermination* of the Jews, has just published a thoroughly provocative and sarcastic farewell to *Ludmer in Focal Point,* the journal Irving edits for the rightist Focus Policy Group.

Entitled Heil and Farewell", the obituary on Ludmer, an authority on racist groups in Britain, attacks him for ignoring everything unpalatable to the left, from the Red Army's "rampage of raping, looting and burning and its final suppression of a dozen historic nations" to the takeover of Afghanistan, and ends: "Morry! The fight for a better *Britain,* decent, clean, free, pure, goes on! Your work, your name will not be forgotten! For Britain, our Britain — Maurice Ludmer, for the last time... Presente!

Irving, 43, told me from his holiday hotel in Gstaad: "It's a *final settlement of old scores.* Ludmer did a hatchet job on me on a number of occasions though I must admit I am quite *fond* of him now that he is dead."

The feud goes back to the mid-Sixties when a burglary was carried out at Irving's home. *According to Irving,* the burglars were members of a Jewish underground group associated with a predecessor of *Searchlight*, the left-wing, anti-racist magazine which Ludmer edited until his death at the age of 54.

Veronica Ware, Ludmer's successor, does not plan to let the obituary pass without response, however. She said: "This really goes over the top. It is a parody of some of the tributes paid to Maurice after his death. We shall continue to keep a close watch on Mr Irving and his activities."

Ludmer, who determined to fight fascism after inspecting Belsen in 1946 as a member of the War Graves Commission, was *president of Birmingham Trades* Council and a devoted Irving-baiter.

Playing up

It was a serious piece of miscasting, I should say, to have my god-daughter act as *Gabriel in* her school nativity play on Wednesday night. She is many things but arch-angelic is not one of them. (For a start, I do not expect to see again the gold brocade curtain I lent her for her cape — she muttered something about the innkeeper's wife *being* sick on it).

Nonetheless, there is one thing to be said for school plays in these times of cutbacks at the Arts Council: they are the only productions with anything approaching a cast of thousands (well, the entire *infants department*, plus Miss Ludlow's class). This can do odd things to what you might call the iconography of the bible story; I was, for instance, not aware until this week that the shepherds in Galilee outnumbered the sheep.

Teachers like Miss Ludlow, of course, have all sorts of production problems unknown to the likes of Sir Peter Hall. *Casting Alistair from 4b* as Balthazar made sense to everyone in view of his lovely voice — everyone, that is, except younger brother Graham, who hit the roof and his sister. But I liked Miss Ludlow's imaginative way out: *four* wise men.

The *stars* looked *magical in* their black leotards and disco glitter but they trooped on stage a triangle short and I feel it was a shade unheavenly to have a pushing and pulling match of near-cosmic proportions behind the manger. It only meant they were late twinkling.

Joseph, sad to say, lost his way rather a lot amid the script — and several ribs I should imagine since whenever he was late coming in on cue, also frequent, he was enthusiastically shoved *from behind by* the angels *and* the front half of the donkey.

The ethnic balance of the story was somewhat disturbed, in that only wise men came over as in any way Jewish — and from Brooklyn at that. This was probably due to a mistake, however, since the effect stemmed from the only line they had to speak. Balthazar had to give an instruction to one of his less-wise men after they had dropped their gold frankincense and (two loads of) myrrh on baby *Jesus's* head. I *have* a *suspicion* he left out the word "ready", when he bellowed the command: "Make with the camels, Melchior."



Le cuisine anglais

English cuisine gets an accolade in Paris this week from those high priests of French gastronomy, *Henri Gault and Christian* Millau, famous for their restaurant guide. Yes, thay say, in an article in a Parisian weekly, English cuisine really exists.

Besides the well-known and "admirable" Scotch beef and Yorkshire pudding and the "thick" *Dover* sole, "which has no equivalent in France", they have also been "enchanted" recently to discover cocka'leekie soup, Lancaster hotpot (*sic*), beef braized in Guinness and even tripe and onions. The recommended place for these delicacies is none other than the Dorchester Hotel in Park Lane.

Royal mail

I await with interest the Post Office decision which could mean that mail posted at Windsor Castle will bear the less regal postmark of nearby Slough from next spring. A mechanized letter office which is to open in Slough will *mean that 55 per cent of mail* now bearing the Windsor postmark will disappear — much to the chagrin of the town's inhabitants.

Battle stations

Mr Ken Livingstone, the beleagured head of the *GLC*, needs all the help he can get this morning, after his defeat at the hands of those five Lords of Appeal yesterday, and I am happy to chip in my bit. He forecasts the closure of 20 tube stations as a result of the decision so he may feel like making use of the following crucial intelligence:

Temple is the local station for Lord Diplock,
Wimbledon for Lord Brandon,
Knightsbridge for Lord Scarman,
High St Kensington for Lord Wilberforce.
Lord Keith lives in Pitlochry, Scotland, so he makes most use of King's Cross/St Pancras.

GG in suspense

Graham Greene is following in the footsteps of Charles Dickens by publishing his next novel in instalments. A third chunk of the book, *Monsignor Quixote*, appears today in *The Tablet*, which has carried earlier instalments in its last two Christmas issues. Greene is a trustee of the Roman Catholic periodical, whose editor, Tom Burns, tells me that his seasonal contributions have done much for its circulation.

Greene has just delivered the completed manuscript of the novel to his publishers at The Bodley Head, but I fear he is too late to catch his preferred publication date in May, so fans will have to wait until September to find out what happens to the Monsignor, a rebellious priest in modern Spain.

Research for the book has been helped by Father Leopoldo Duran, a Spanish priest, who has accompanied the author for the last few summers on motoring tours around the country. Exactly which of them plays Quixote and which Sancho Panza is not yet certain.

The travels have not been exactly fruitless for the priest, who happens to be a lecturer in English literature at Madrid University and, unsurprisingly, an acknowledged expert on GG. *Concurrently with Greene's* latest instalment in *The Tablet*, Duran gives an insider's analysis of the author and his recent *oeuvre* in *The Clergy Review*. Wisely, he does not give away *Quixote's* ending.

Peter Watson



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LONDON TRANSPORT AND THE LAW

We now have the last word on the law, and it says that the Greater London Council did not have the power to order a reduction of 25 per cent in the fares charged by London Transport and throw the whole cost on the ratepayers. Local authorities, even the largest of them, are the creation of *statute*. They may do only what they have express authority to do. The Transport (London) Act 1969 does not authorize the GLC to do what it did. Nor did the voters' endorsement of Labour's GLC manifesto supersede in any way the constraints imposed by the law.

The Act *does* authorize the GLC to pay the London Transport Executive grants or subsidies out of its precepted rate income. But so far as these take the form of an operational subsidy they are permissible only for meeting an "unavoidable" deficit after the LTE has done its duty of ensuring, as far as practicable, that its operating costs are covered by fares and other internal revenues. Neither the council nor the executive has authority to go for a deficit as an objective of policy.

The London Act (and it must now be supposed the Act under which provincial transport authorities operate) *is thus found to preclude* positive subsidies for the deliberate manipulation of fare levels or (presumably) for other operational purposes. Yet such subsidies are by now a common instrument of public transport policy — more so abroad than in Britain, but part of orthodoxy here none the less. If the law does not accommodate them, the law must be changed.

A change of law will require more than a simple redrafting of the relevant sections of the Acts. The idea of regional subsidies for urban transport has been *temporarily* discredited by the GLC's foray. As things now are councils cannot safely be given an unrestricted right to put their hands in ratepayers' pockets for the benefit of public transport users, even though the two classes overlap — especially, as Lord Scarman observed in his judgment, since those who *produce the greater part of* the rates have no vote in local government elections. The fiduciary duty a council owes its ratepayers, which the courts have frequently insisted upon and which formed an important element in the arguments of the five Law Lords in this case, cannot safely be set aside by statute *unless there is reason* to be confident that the new discretion will be prudently exercised.

To be confident of that one would need to be satisfied that the administrative structures were well adapted to the exercise of the discretion in respect of the area covered, the transport services in*cluded and the population* to be taxed; that the authorities given the discretion could be relied on to be guided by considerations of transport policy and the costs and benefits for the people of the area as a whole, and to keep their political impulses under control; *and that the source* of revenue on which they would be entitled to precept was from the point of view of accountability in a sound *relationship to the electorate* from which they derive their authority — which will not be the case until local public financing is thoroughly reformed. All of that raises considerable doubt as to whether the present lines of responsibility for public transport in the London area are the right ones.

But given the right structures, accountability and taxing arrangements, a power of positive subsidy is certainly a power that a modern urban transport authority ought to have. It is no panacea, and it will do no good unless it is *carefully related to other* policy instruments. One of the GLC's mistakes was to throw the whole of its huge new subsidy at fares, without relating it to improvements in productivity or in the frequency and reliability of services. The latter are of even more importance than fare levels when it comes to *winning custom*. An operating subsidy is a necessary instrument of policy if judiciously used in conjunction with capital improvements, flexible work schedules, simplified patterns and collection of fares, regularity of service, administrative and price deterrence to private cars in inner city areas, and a coordinated road works programme. That at any rate is what is suggested by the Continental experience, which our Transport Correspondent looks at on another page.

TEN CHARACTERS IN SEARCH OF AN AUTHOR

There has been disappointingly little to show for the six months of Britain's presidency of the European Community. On Wednesday Mrs Thatcher was in Strasbourg to give a *report on the* failure of last month's summit. She was followed yesterday by Lord Carrington, who outlined a number of decisions which had been taken in the last few months, but had to admit that the major *objectives had not* been achieved. There is still no agreement on the related issues of reform of the common agricultural policy and contributions to the Community budget, both of which were supposed to have been settled by the end of this year. Nor has it been possible to resolve the differences over fisheries policy, which have been causing difficulties for so long, or to make the progress that had been hoped on bringing down European air fares or allowing insurance companies to operate across national borders.

It would be wrong, however, to put all the blame for this failure on this country. In the first place, there are limits to the possibilities which are opened up by being in the chair. The country holding the presidency can do much to fix the agenda of meetings. It can even force everyone else to work away at looking for solutions, as Mrs Thatcher did at the summit. But ultimately it is only one among ten, and it takes ten, all with their own national interests, to reach a Community agreement. What Britain was able to do was to impart a sense of urgency and — unusually — to ensure that meetings started on time. It was able to show that it took the European Parliament seriously: Mrs Thatcher was the first head of government *to report* to the Parliament on a summit. But it was not able to get agreements on the issues which were of the greatest importance to itself.

There were some achievements. There was the agreement in October on procedures for improving cooperation on foreign policy issues, and on including security, at least in its political aspects, in consultations among the Ten. Foreign policy coordination is an area in which the Community has made slow but steady progress. Some progress was made towards a solution of the complex of issues related to agricultural reform and budget contributions. A settlement should be possible in the next few months. It is also important that the Community has, so far at least, been able to weather this latest crisis without the recriminations and bitterness which have marked earlier ones.

But the fact remains, as Lord Carrington pointed out yesterday, that it has become increasingly difficult to get decisions in the Community. The failure at the summit means *that* more *time and* effort will have to be devoted to the issues discussed there, rather than taking up new ones. It could delay even further the entry of Spain and Portugal, which are being made to wait until the Community *has sorted out its own* difficulties, and are both understandably impatient. It will do nothing to reduce public disillusionment with the workings of the Community, which has long been serious in this country and is increasingly so in West Germany.

There are no easy solutions to the problem of getting decisions. One long-standing idea, recently revived by the Germans and the Italians, is to make more use of majority voting. But that could only improve the situation if it meant that one or more countries were overruled on issues that were of importance to them; and that could be a recipe for more disenchantment. The only way forward is by constructing packages in which countries give up something in one area for gains in another — and by a greater awareness all round of a shared European interest.

FISH AND FOWL IN FLEET STREET

Journalists, like most members of the community, hold political opinions. They vote in local and parliamentary elections. They may be members *of a political party. Some* of them become politically active, presenting themselves as candidates for their local council, or for Westminster. Others demonstrate their commitment through their membership of various committees, or by individual effort behind the scenes.

The question whether *strong political allegiance and* unbiased journalistic performance are compatible is by *no means new, but the advent* of the Social Democratic Party has given it a new turn. It appears, though it is difficult to quantify, that the party has attracted a significant complement of journalists. It is clear that some of *them — drawn from a very* wide range of newspapers — are taking an active part, through committees (like that on communication, on which *The Times* reported yesterday) or by offering themselves as candidates in elections, or as advisers.

Does it matter? Does the fact that a journalist is, in his private life, a firm supporter of the SDP and works for the party, affect his credibility as a journalist? There is no easy answer. Obviously, much depends on the field he *covers. It may not matter* at all if the sports editor of a newspaper is an active party worker. If he is the political correspondent, there may be justification for some disquiet. A journalist actively engaged in politics is perhaps not the most objective purveyor of news about politics. A Member of Parliament who *has a financial interest in a* subject which he raises in the House has to declare his interest. *Should the journalist* with a strong political committment be under a similar obligaton to tell his public of his involvement in the very subject on which he reports.

It is extraordinarily diffi*cult to draw the line in* practice. Political commitment does not necessarily *manifest itself in membership* of committees, or in attempts to find a seat. Parties differ in the way they operate. A journalist who works behind the scenes for one party may be just as effective — and potentially suspect in his *political writings* — as one who pursues his aims more openly on behalf of another party. *Mrs Shirley Williams* has admitted that, apart from the journalists who are publicly known to be active helpers of the SDP, there are others whose identities have not been revealed. They should be..

What is important is that the editors of newspapers *should know when their* journalists have reached a stage of political commitment that might be considered (whether rightly or wrongly) to affect their judgment when writing about political matters. It should then be up to the editor to decide whether or not to curtail his writing on those subjects and divert *him elsewhere. In general, an* editor (who should not himself be politically active) should exercise that editorial discretion to remove the possibility of perceived bias.

Boundary Commission

From Mr Harry Greenway, MP for Ealing North

Sir, I have read the letter from the secretary to the Boundary Commission in *today's Times* (December 14) with much interest. I find it unacceptable.

The prime duty of the Boundary Commission is to produce constituency boundaries which are even in terms of number of electors and homogeneous in character. There can be no possible excuse for not putting this democratic duty above all other considerations such as shortage of secretarial staff, shortage of assistant commissioners and the rest.

In the one experience I have had of the commission at work I was appalled at the autocratic nature of the assistant commissioner who conducted the enquiry. It was a thoroughly legal matter to him, it appeared, and if ordinary people could not handle it in this way, then bad luck! The result was that the lawyers were upheld and, having been given no idea of when they might be called to give their evidence, (questions were not allowed) they left for work or the care of their homes and families and a whole side of the case was thus unsupported by witnesses.

The Boundary Commission *cannot possibly be* excused for allowing this sort of thing to happen and, as a body answerable to *Parliament* should take immediate steps to put itself above reproaches of this kind.

Yours etc,
HARRY GREENWAY,
House of Commons.
December 14.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

An urgent case for reflation

From Professor Wynne Godley

Sir, The present Government's economic policy has always been based on the view that unemployment *cannot* be reduced (other than temporarily) by fiscal and monetary policy; and that the attempt to use policy in this way only leads to more inflation and ultimately to even more unemployment than otherwise would have occurred.

This view is one which does not admit of any "flexibility" whatever. Most particularly it implies that if there are any cuts at all in taxation in the next Budget this will make both unemployment and inflation worse, not better.

When on earth are people going to wake up and see these ideas to be wrong from beginning to end and that policies based on them have had wholly perverse effects; they have generated (as I forewarned they would) an unprecedentedly severe slump without the prospect of sustained recovery at any stage, with unemployment rising indefinitely and, very *likely, without much* reduction in the inflation rate.

As the money supply is way *above its target rate of growth*, inflation still in double figures and the public sector borrowing requirement *no lower* than the target set in the MTFS (medium term financial strategy), the only possible justification for any reduction in tax rates in the Budget, on which many people now seem to be counting, is that this will increase real output and employment. But this would be to admit that the Government's policies so far have indeed been based on entirely false premises. And as soon as people see this they should recognize also the desperately urgent need for really substantial reflationary measures before any more destruction occurs.

Such measures should be devised so as to reduce industrial costs and prices, thereby simultaneously increasing exports, domestic output and employment while actually reducing inflation. A £10,000m package consisting of the abolition of the National Insurance surcharge and a reduction of NI contributions by employers in manufacturing industry would make a good start.

Yours faithfully,
WYNNE GODLEY,
University of Cambridge,
Department of Applied Economics,
Sidgwick Avenue,
Cambridge,

Art buyers' premium

From Mr David Mason

Sir, The humiliation of the two art trade organizations is now complete. Sotheby's high-handed and combative statement this week (report, December 16) confirms that they will not abolish the premium or even reduce it but in fact they will also increase vendor charges regarding three-quarters of the items that they sell by 50 per cent.

Mrs. Geraldine Norman's penetrating article (December 17) on the bitter dispute between Sotheby's and Christie's on the one hand, and the British Antique Dealers' Association and the Society of London Art Dealers on the other, over the controversial 10 per cent auctioneers' buyers' premium gives cause for the greatest concern.

Several weeks ago Mr. Gordon Borrie, Director General of the Office of Fair Trading, who had already attempted to investigate the alleged collusion by the auctioneers over the introduction of the premium twice before, again took up the cudgels on behalf of the public, who sadly have so far been totally ignored by both dealers and auctioneers alike. However, he has been hampered in his inquiries by the extraordinary and obstinate refusal by the dealers' organizations to assist him.

As a picture dealer who has been highly critical of the art trade's supine attitude to the financial strength and establishment standing of the auctioneers, I deplore that even at this late *stage neither* trade organization has been willing to furnish the Office of Fair Trading with the *evidence they hold of this* alleged collusion. Could we not now have an unequivocal declaration by the *British Antique Dealers' Association* and Society of London Art Dealers that they will forthwith co-operate to the full *with the* Director General of the Office of Fair Trading? And if not, why not?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID MASON, Chairman,
MacConnal-Mason,
14 Duke Street,
St James's, SW1.

CBI rates plea

From Mr F. L. Othick

Sir, Your report (Business News, December 9) *refers* to Sir Terence Beckett's claim, on behalf of the CBI, that industry is contributing £5,000m in rates this year.

The *total* rate income is, I understand, £10,000m. As industry accounts for only 23 per cent of the total ratable value its contribution would seem to be less than half the figure Sir Terence claims.

It is *to* be hoped that *Mr* Michael Heseltine will be cautious about inflicting more *burdens* on domestic ratepayers to help industrialists unless and until their true need is properly authenticated. In any case help should be reserved for those proved to be badly hit, not every industrial concern irrespective of its fortunes.

Yours, etc,
FRANK OTHICK,
109 Hookfield,
Epsom,
Surrey.

Dilemma of the Polish people

From Mr John Lyons

Sir, You say in your leader on *Poland today* (December 16) that "the radicals in Solidarity overplayed their hand". There is a sense in which this is *obviously* true but before it becomes the conventional wisdom I would like to put a different view.

It happens that I was in Poland five weeks ago. Among those I met was Mr Janusz Onyszkiewicz, a leading representative of Solidarity, who is now reported to be among those who have been arrested.

My clear impression from my visit was of almost universal agreement among Poles that the Polish Government and the Polish Communist Party, of which the Government was an extension, had lost all credibility with the Polish people. *Nothing* they did or said commanded the slightest respect among the *people at large*. On the other hand, Solidarity, with a membership of ten million (plus two *million* in Rural Solidarity), did command that respect.

As I understood it, the central political requirement in Poland was for a negotiated deal between the Government and Solidarity which would leave the leading role of the Communist Party intact but which nevertheless would make sufficient political concessions to Solidarity to enable it to call on its supporters to turn to the task of *rescuing* the Polish economy and, therefore, the Polish nation from the abyss everyone *saw before them*.

The position of Solidarity's leadership was emphatically that they did not want political power, nor even did they wish to form a political party. The Solidarity leadership saw their function essentially as a trades union which happened for the moment to be receptacle for the Polish peoples' political desire for honest and democratic Government within the Communist system. They wished to secure the essential political changes their supporters wanted and then to revert to their trade union role.

Solidarity's political demands of the Government were principally four: the right of access to television (specifically to have half an hour to themselves a week); the introduction of an independent judiciary; free local elections; and the creation of a joint council between the Government, Church and Solidarity to have an input into the legislative process, principally in a vetting capacity.

I was struck by the modesty of these demands. What I could not understand was why it seemed to be such an insuperable difficulty for agreement to be reached between Solidarity and the Government somewhat along these lines, particularly as I formed the opinion that the Solidarity ledership strongly wished to reach an agreement with the Government.

What I could not understand then I *believe* I can understand now. If the Polish Government and Communist Party had already taken the view that it wished to reimpose its authority on the Polish people then, of course, the refusal to negotiate realistically over the demands of moderate Solidarity leadership was exactly the right course to take.

It lead to where we are now at: the radicals in Solidarity gaining ascendancy and putting forward demands which eventually gave the Government the excuse it wanted to introduce martial law. (It is absolutely apparent, incidentally, that the whole operation has been very well planned, a process which must have taken weeks if not months).

It is for these reasons I do not think it is good enough to regard the imposition of martial law in Poland as being the fault of the radicals who went too far. With hindsight, I would say that the Polish Communist Party has never had any intention of conceding a free trades union movement in Poland, let alone democracy in any wider sense; it has played a waiting game, indirectly encouraging the emergence of relatively extreme elements for its own purposes.

I write because I do not think there is the slightest justification for arresting Mr Januzs Onyszkiewicz and his colleagues, who I would regard as being in the best traditions of British trade unionism, and I do not wish to see any invented.

Incidentally, I must emphasise that I write in a personal capacity.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN LYONS,
General Secretary,
Engineers and Managers Association,
Station House,
Fox Lane North,
Chertsey, Surrey.

From Mr Antoni Pospieszalski

Sir, Your editorial "What the Poles should do" (December 16) is evidence that the admirable British habit of looking at the other side of every coin can be carried too far. You are still looking for some kind of respectable justification for the "state of war" imposed upon Poland by General Jaruzelski and ask the *irrelevant* question whether a Russian intervention will follow.

The question is irrelevant because *what has happened is, in* fact, armed intervention by proxy. Unconfirmed reports that Marshal Kulikov *spent* the week proceding the coup in Poland, or that Soviet transport planes have landed in Warsaw *since*, are equally irrelevant because it is not the physical presence of the Russians that matters.

What matters is that the coup is in no one else's interest but that of Moscow alone, and General Jaruzelski's hint that he has taken that action in order to forestall an invasion, *so far from* excusing the treasonable act, is indirect confirmation that he undertook it on orders of Moscow. The excuse that Poland was on the brink of civil war you yourself have already branded as nonsensical.

The "state of war" is ceraínly not in the interest of the long-suffering Polish people and makes their ordeal so much worse. Also the hope that Polish workers will under the threat of bayonets produce the goods necessary to repay the mountain of debts incured by their rulers is a forlorn hope. Poles know that under the present regime they could not do it, even if they worked their hands to the bone.

This is one reason (though for them not the prime reason) why they resist. If only a minority *resist* actively, it *is not that the* majority see in the coup a chance for solving Poland's problems. The *engineers of the coup* have seen to it that fear should be the predominant factor shaping people's behaviour.

In this light your hope that, after martial law is lifted a *truncated Solidarity* would be able to exert any sort of pressure for liberalization and increased *economic efficiency* strikes one as naive. You might as well hope for democratic reforms in war-*torn Afghanistan*.

What we are having now in the middle of Europe is another *Afghanistan*. The West as a whole is extremely slow in grasping this awful but simple fact. Perhaps a *slow maturation* to the *full* realisation of the fact is preferable to a sudden indignant outcry, as after the invasions of Czechoslovakia and of Afghanistan, which then peters out into helpless resignation.

This, I venture to say, is the real hope for Europe in its darkest hour since World War Two.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,
ANTONI POSPIESZALSKI,
115 Redston Road, N8.
December 16.

From Mr Nigel Linacre

Sir, Does the British Communist Party's support (December 17) for "the restoration of all democratic rights" in Poland include legalising all other political parties and regular national elections to choose between those parties? Or does this fall outwith the bounds of socialist realism?

Yours faithfully,
NIGEL LINACRE,
15 Hindman's Road, SE22.
December 17.

Complaints on police

From the Chairman of the Police Federation of England and Wales

Sir, I take the trouble to reply to *Mr Michael Meacher* (December 12) because he has addressed some questions directly to me. I have long since abandoned any hope of getting Mr Meacher to understand the whole facts of the problems involved in the police complaints system, but would not wish your readers to think that his latest effort is any more sound than his previous ones.

First, I have not "backtracked" as Mr Meacher, relying on a newspaper report of my appearance before the parliamentary select committee, implies. It was always my belief that complaints of criminal behaviour by police officers should be investigated by police officers, whether or not the matter came to light through a member of the public. Under our proposals, any subsequent investigation into non-criminal aspects of a complaint would be carried out by wholly independent persons. This would have applied in most, if not all, the cases of recent years which have attracted so much public controversy.

Mr Meacher implies that the Director of Public Prosecutions is not an independent authority when he decides whether or not to prosecute a police officer. This is a serious reflection on the personal integrity of the Director and his staff. The Director applies the same test to the possibility of securing a conviction against a police officer as he does in any other case.

Mr Meacher complains that the Director makes his decision on the basis of the police report of the investigation, without *person*ally interviewing either the complainant or the police officer. In what other cases does the Director interview a suspect a complainant before deciding whether to prosecute? He can, and often does, order that further inquiries be made into a police complaint before he takes a decision.

Apparently, Mr Meacher believes that a wholly independent system of investigation into all complaints, criminal and non-criminal, would increase the proportion of prosecutions against the police for alleged assaults. To believe this, it is necessary to accept his premise that police investigators do not do the job thoroughly at the present time, or that the Director is failing in his public duty.

I find it revealing that Mr Meacher objects to our proposals for strengthening the civil rights of police officers who find themselves subjected to a complaint. He has never portrayed any sympathy or understanding for the situation of such an officer. Fair-minded people, on the other hand, might wonder why he supports all moves aimed at strengthening the protection of the citizen who is suspected of crime, except where that citizen happens to be a policeman.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES JARDINE, Chairman,
Police Federation of England and Wales,
15-17 Langley Road,
Surbiton,
Surrey.
December 14.

Steps towards racial equality

From Sir Geoffrey Wilson

Sir, I hold no particular brief for the Commission for Racial Equality, for when I was Chairman of the old Race Relations Board we warned a totally deaf Mr Alex Lyon *of what* the consequences were likely to be if the Government, of which he was then a member, *went ahead* with its plan to merge the board and the Race Relations Commission.

But whatever the detailed shortcomings of the commission, Mr Lyon and his parliamentary colleagues (report, *December* 16) are shooting at the wrong target. The major responsibility rests with this *Government* and the last one.

In its final report in September, 1976, *the Race Relations* Board set out some of the steps which it thought that the government *should take to improve* race relations and concluded: "The use by the Government of its *commercial and financial powers* is long overdue . . . While it fails to use its executive powers its *commitment* to that fight (ie against race discrimination in Employment) will inevitably be seen as less than total. . . .

"The Select Committee on Race and Immigration and the Community Relations Commission have put forward many recommendations on what Government departments and local authorities can and should do . . . The response to their proposals has been negligible. Until the Government allocates the necessary resources . . . so that its words and policies can be put into effect, some scepticism of its determination to deal with the issues will be justified."

These words were addressed to a Labour Government and they are equally applicable to this one. Mr Whitelaw's promise that at last there will be some degree of monitoring in the Civil Service is most welcome, but there is little sign of any other positive use of its powers by the Government, and until there is it is quite unreasonable to expect that a statutory body with a very modest amount of money will be able to make a significant impact.

The CRE can be a valuable support for overt and vigorous Government action. But even the most perfect commission can be no substitute for such action.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY WILSON,
4 Polstead Road,
Oxford.

Wartime Wagner

From Mr Harold Rosenthal

Sir, I am sure that my friend *Bernard Levin will not object* to my playing Beckmesser once again, especially as on this occasion it is to correct a mistaken piece of Wagnerian folk-lore that seems to have grown up. It is not true to suggest as Mr Levin did in his article last Saturday (December 12) that "The war-long ban on performances of his music meant that those young people who were a few years my (*Levin's*) senior had grown up, musically, without him".

There was no kind of ban of any kind on Wagner between 1939 and 1945; I attended many concerts in which Wagner's music was played during those years, and especially remember the "bleeding chunks" from Wagner operas during the wartime Proms, when such singers as Eva Turner, Walter Widdop, Parry Jones, Redvers Llewelyn and other well-known artists sang extracts from *The Ring, Tristan, Meistersinger*, etc, as well as concerts by the LPO at the Coliseum conducted by Karl Rankl which included music by Wagner.

It is true that no Wagner operas were performed during the war.

Yours faithfully,
HAROLD ROSENTHAL,
Editor, *Opera*,
6 Woodland Rise, N10.

Cold feet?

From Mrs R. S. King-Farlow

Sir, For those who wish to stretch their shoes to a comfortable fit but dislike the idea of putting their footwear in the freezer, as suggested by your correspondent of December 10, may I pass on a tip given to us by our cleaning lady's husband (a retired industrial worker).

He recommended quickly soaking a few pages of newspaper in water, squeezing them into a ball, and stuffing it as tightly as possible into the offending shoe, which stretches to a comfortable width.

I may add that of course I always use *The Times* for this purpose, though I am quite ignorant of the scientific explanation of this phenomenon.

Your faithfully
JOAN KING-FARLOW,
21 Hartley Place,
Vicarage Road,
Edgbaston,
Birmingham.

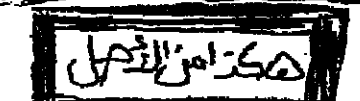
Where is fancy bred?

From Mrs Joanne Bower

Sir, How very strange that, while China is trying desperately to control its population explosion, Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, should bestow the industry's top marketing award on Mr Joe Buckner, of Cherry Valley Ducks, who is exporting ducks' feet to China as aphrodisiacs (Business News, December 9).

Is this perhaps on a par with our former peddling of opium in order to undermine China's constitution?

Yours faithfully,
JOANNE BOWER,
Honorary Secretary,
The Farm and Food Society,
4 Willifield Way, NW11.





COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 17: His Excellency Mr Shridath Ramphal (Commonwealth Secretary-General) had the honour of being received by The Queen.

His Excellency Monsieur Robbert Fack and Madame Fack were received in farewell audience by Her Majesty and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency Monsieur Frithjof Halfdan Jacobsen and Mrs Jacobsen were received in farewell audience by The Queen and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Kingdom of Norway to the Court of St James's.

Mr Carol Mather, MP (Vice-Chamberlain of the Household) was received in audience by Her Majesty and presented an Address from the House of Commons to which The Queen was graciously pleased to make reply.

The Prince of Wales, Patron, this morning at Buckingham Palace chaired a meeting of the Trustees of The Rainbow Boats Trust.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
December 17: Princess Alexandra this afternoon opened the new Wellcome Museum of the History of Medicine at the Science Museum, London, SW7.

Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

The Lord Mayor of London and the Lady Mayoress send greetings for Christmas and 1982 to their friends. They are donating to the National Playing Fields Association instead of [illegible] Christmas cards.

Mr Abdul Kader Ahmed Jaffer, Honorary Consul of Brazil in Karachi, was awarded "Order of Southern Cross" by the Ambassador of Brazil in Pakistan on Saturday.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R. T. M. Ahern and Miss P. C. Rose
The engagement is announced between Timothy, elder son of the late Major-General T. M. R. Ahern and Mrs Ahern, of Shrivenham, Oxfordshire, and Philippa, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Stephen Rose, of Writtle, Essex.

Mr E. G. Creasy and Miss P. M. Anderson
The engagement is announced between Edward, elder son of Mr Robert Creasy, Lavrock House, Freckenham, Suffolk, and Mrs Anthony Villar, Tostock, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, and Penelope Mhairi, only daughter of Major and Mrs Michael Anderson, Westfield House, Westfield, West Lothian.

Mr N. H. Arkell and Miss M. E. Watson-Smyth
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of Mr Deryk Arkell, of Bouthrop House, Eastleach, Gloucestershire, and Mrs H. D. Bailey, of Forresters House, Minchinhampton, Gloucestershire, and Miranda, third daughter of Mr Michael Watson-Smyth, of Middle Hill Park, Broadway, Worcestershire, and Mrs Watson-Smyth, of 35 Park Walk, London, SW3.

Mr H. F. H. Manisty and Miss S. C. S. Stead
The engagement is announced between Henry, youngest son of the late Mr H. E. Manisty and of Lady Stephens, of The Old Rectory, Coates, Gloucestershire, and Sara, younger daughter of Captain J. W. Stead, RN (retd), and Mrs Stead, of Sydney, Australia.

Mr A. Nicolson and Miss O. M. R. Fane
The engagement is announced between Adam, only son of Mr Nigel Nicolson, of Sissinghurst Castle, Kent, and Lady McAlpine, of Aylesfield, Alton, Hampshire, and Olivia, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Antony Fane, of Rutherwyck House, Lyne, Surrey.

Mr D. M. Graham, RAN, and Miss C. M. Adelmann
The engagement is announced in Sydney between David, son of Mr and Mrs M. Graham, Melbourne, Australia, and Caroline, daughter of the late Mr H. Adelmann and Mrs M. Adelmann, of Wimbledon, London, SW19.

Mr A. G. McGregor and Miss J. C. Belsham
The engagement is announced between Graham, son of Dr and Mrs I. G. McGregor, of Great Field, Windermere, and Judith, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs I. R. B. Belsham, Green Man Inn, Fownhope, Hereford.

Marriages

Viscount Dilhorne and Mrs Gilchrist
The marriage of Viscount Dilhorne and Mrs Gilchrist yesterday was followed by a service of blessing in the Crypt Chapel of the Palace of Westminster, at which the Rev W. Gibbs officiated.

Mr T. J. R. Henson and Mrs A. Mears
The marriage took place quietly on December 17 in Yorkshire between Mr Thomas John Brooke Henson, of The Corner House, Bulmer, York, and Mrs Anne Mears, of High Farm, Firby, York.

Mr H. A. Grey and Miss I. M. Anscombe
The marriage took place in London on December 17 between Mr Howard Andrew Grey, son of Mr and Mrs A. Grey, of Forset Court, Marble Arch, London, W2, and Miss Isabelle Mary Anscombe, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. R. Anscombe, of White Lodge, Bramhall, Cheshire.

Christening

The infant daughter of Mr and Mrs Stephen C. Aldrich was christened Cassandra Frances Casson by the Rev. Michael Thompson at St Mary Abbots, Kensington, on December 13. The godparents are Mr Julian R. Perry, Mrs Averil Zamboni and Miss Deirdre Henty-Creer.

Luncheons

HM Government
The Lord Privy Seal, Mr Humphrey Atkins, was host yesterday at a luncheon given at Carlton Gardens in honour of Mr David Ford, departing Commissioner of the Hongkong Government Office.

Lunchtime Comment Club
Sir Campbell Adamson was the guest speaker at a luncheon of the Lunchtime Comment Club held at the Connaught Rooms yesterday. Mr E. G. Cornish, chairman, presided.

Dartmouth parade

Britannia Royal Naval College Dartmouth
Vice-Admiral Sir Lindsay Bryson, Controller of the Navy, took the salute at the parade yesterday, when the following officers passed out from Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth:
GENERAL LIST: Acting Sub-Lieutenants: [illegible] A L Milne.
SUPPLEMENTARY LIST: Midshipmen: C Ashcroft, R C Aspinall, G L N Bennett, J M Broadley, S M Collins, R D Hexton, S O Hopper, G B Hudson, M C G Martin, J P McClune, N W McKnight, C E T Robinson, N G Spicer, M R Thompson, J W Wilton, J S Acton, J J Conway, A Crampton-Smith, J S Du-Bois, C T Duckworth, M T Fletcher, S Harwood, S D G Hobson, C P Jowett, J P Keating, J P Moore, I C Surgey, S M Taylor, N C Walde, M J Woolley, M J Baily, D R Cobb, P R Cook, G S Copley, S J France, T R Fuller, D A Jensen, J E G Rattray, C Redstone, D C Tarrant, C R Threfall, L J Watson, T A L Wright, S W Braham, K Llewelyn.
3½-YEAR COMMISSION: Midshipman: C Foord
SPECIAL DUTIES LIST: Acting Sub-Lieutenants: P S Cass, D G Collins, RAN, I F Fretwell, J M Hurry, K H Northcote, T P Osborne, A L Roberts, R F Rosenthal, RAN, P Shapiro, S C Vasey, J K D Ball, P M Daykin, J Dugard, R G Ferguson, D A F Foster, RAN, J Hailey, RAN, P T Harrison, J W Jenkins, R S Shaw, RAN, M B Thomas.
WOMEN'S ROYAL NAVAL SERVICE: Probationary Third Officers: P D Bramhill, J E Burfitt, S E Cameron, J Grindle, P M Horne, C M N Jones, J M Keenan, F A Langford, A M McFadyen, E B Owen, S K Payn, E C Smith, E A Whitehead.
INTERNATIONAL MIDSHIPMEN: T A Bethell (Bahamas), M K Brown (Bahamas), A Cleary (Eire), J Gallagher (Eire), C C Johnson (Bahamas), D Keeley (Eire), D G McMyler (Eire), A Niles (Barbados), F Patterson (Jamaica), E Pennerman (Bahamas), G Reynolds (Jamaica), C Rynne (Eire), J P Kipkoris (Kenya), E Kiskey (Kenya), Prince Lavaka (Tonga), P O Odera (Kenya), H R Nyambok (Kenya), S S Oronde (Kenya), G N Olieno (Kenya), H I Lalangi (Kenya), A N Owuor (Kenya), A M Al Anzi (Kuwait), K A Al Khalifa (Bahamas), A A Al Mutawa (Kuwait), R T Al Raeesi (Oman), S R Al Saad (Bahamas), N J Al Sinani (Oman), H N Al Zidgali (Oman), A A Dashti (Kuwait), R A Hadi (Libya), E A Mohammed (Libya), S M Qabazard (Kuwait), A H Suleiman (Libya), M I Al Khalifa (Bahrain), A O Sultan (United Arab Emirates).

Dinners

The Leathersellers' Company
The Master of the Leathersellers' Company, Major S. Peter Barrow, the Wardens and Members of the Court of Assistants entertained Prince and Princess Michael of Kent at dinner at Leathersellers' Hall, on December 16.

Glass Sellers' Company
Mr Leonard Pagliero was installed as Master of the Glass Sellers' Company at Stationers' Hall yesterday. Mr C. J. Ball, was installed as Prime Warden and Mr V. C. Hender as Renter Warden. A dinner was held later, when those present included:
The Master of the Stationers' Company, the Master of the Actuaries' Company, the President of Bishopsgate Club, Lieutenant-General Sir Hugh Cunningham, Major-General John Groom, Mr S A Field, Mr W R Ide, Mr L L Fellner, Prebendary D C Mossman and Mr P J Willoughby (honorary clerk).

British Dental Association
Professor C. H. Tonge, President of the British Dental Association, was host at a dinner given yesterday at the association's headquarters. The guests were:
Professor Sir Frank Lawton, President of the General Dental Council, Professor Sir John Walton, President of the British Medical Association, Sir Alan Parks, President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, Professor P Bramley, Dean of the Faculty of Dental Surgery at the Royal College of Surgeons of England, Dr J Nunn, Dean of the Faculty of Anaesthetic at the Royal College of Surgeons of England, and Dr T E Gibson, President of the British Veterinary Association. Other BDA officers present were Mr K G Swiss, chairman of the representative board, Mr G L Daley, chairman of the council, Mr K R Ray, chairman of the central committee for Hospital Dental Services, and Mr R B Allen, Secretary of the BDA.

25 years ago

From The Times of Tuesday December 18 1956

From Our Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster, Monday. — The reunion of the Prime Minister and his backbenchers in the Commons today could hardly have failed to be touched with self-consciousness on both sides. So it proved, when Sir Anthony Eden emerged from behind the Speaker's chair while the Minister of Fuel and Power was wrestling with some prickly questions on petrol rationing. As soon as the Prime Minister's sun-tanned countenance was spotted by his well-wishers they raised a cheer which bore him to the Treasury bench. How many decibels of sound the cheer registered it would be rash to conjecture.

Across the ages: General Jarl Wahlström, the new leader of the Salvation Army, with a bust of General William Booth, the movement's founder, on his arrival at the London headquarters yesterday.

Cost of shelving British Library

By Kenneth Gosling

All the alternatives to building new premises for the British Library are far more expensive than the present estimated total cost of £300m, Sir Frederick Dainton, chairman of the British Library board, said yesterday.

The first stage of the library on its new site, east of St Pancras station, in north London, has been authorized by the Government at a cost of £88m and work starts next spring. But if the 10 million volumes in the library's reference division were to be put on photo-microform the cost at today's prices would be £600m, Sir Frederick said.

Accommodation for 400 people will be available in two reading rooms in the first stage of the new headquarters building and there will be 52 miles of shelving. Eventually there will be accommodation for 2,500 people and 18 miles of shelving, he said.

Sir Frederick pointed out that the building would not be available for another 9 to 10 years, so there would be no real relief for that period. "We are the keystone of the country's libraries system and if we fail, the ripples go out to all other libraries", he said.

In terms of poundage, the library was receiving more in 1982-83 than other institutions but there were inexorable rises in expenditure and additional duties had been placed on the library.

They were examining their priorities and at the end of the day some things had to suffer more than others.

"We are really in a very parlous state in relation to responding to heritage matters and it is increasingly difficult to ensure retention in this country of things we would like to keep." They had included, he said, the Codex Leicester and the Rashid Al-Din World History.

Sir Frederick was introducing the library's annual report, which comments this year on the encouraging progress made on conservation. Equal amounts, about £4m, are spent annually on conservation and acquisitions, but conservation is pulling ahead and last year a record number of 234,291 items were bound, conserved of furbished, with a 300 per cent increase in the newspaper bindery.

Eighth annual report, 1980-81 (British Library Press and Public Relations Section, 2 Sheraton Street, London, W1V 4BH, £1).

Funds running dangerously low

By Christopher Warman, Arts Correspondent

Many well established libraries in both the academic and the public sectors are being eroded by the reduction of funds for acquisitions and running expenses to a "dangerously low" level, Mr Paul Channon, Minister for the Arts, says in a report published yesterday.

This is the conclusion of the Library and Information Services Council, contained in the report. It also states that some library authorities are finding it difficult to maintain a comprehensive library service.

The report gives a warning that further reductions in local authority expenditure must call into question the authorities' ability to continue to provide the sort of service that the public still increasingly demands.

The council emphasizes the extent to which libraries have become dependent on facilities provided centrally by the British Library, and especially by the British Library lending division.

In his report Mr Channon acknowledges that constraints on the funding of the activities of both local authorities and academic institutions during the year have inevitably had repercussions on their respective library services.

"I shall be anxious to ensure that the value and vulnerability of library and information services are fully appreciated when future allocations for their support are being determined", he said.

Report by the Minister for the Arts on Library and Information Matters during 1981 (Cmnd 8454, Stationery Office, £2.30).

£5,280 for Victoria's album of consolation

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

The British Library yesterday acquired the two-volume "Album Consolativum", in which Queen Victoria transcribed the passages of verse and prose which she found of most comfort in her grief at Prince Albert's death. They range from Goethe to Tennyson, from condolence letters to popular songs.

The two volumes were offered for sale at Sotheby's and Quaritch bid £5,280 for them on behalf of the library. Dr B. Waley, Keeper of Manuscripts, said that the purchase had been decided on for heritage reasons. Sotheby's had estimated the lot at £3,000 to £3,500. It has not been established how the album left the Royal Family.

Sotheby's sale of letters, documents and manuscripts (12 per cent unsold) contained many rare curiosities. The top price of £18,700 (estimate £12,000-£15,000) was paid by Quaritch for a document signed by Henry VIII and appointing commissioners to arrange a marriage between his son, Prince Edward, aged six, and Mary Queen of Scots, aged one. It was rejected by the Scottish Parliament and vast areas of Scotland were consequently laid waste by Seymour "the hammer of the Scots".

Philatelic history was shown to retain its usual appeal when an archive of 350 letters relating to the penny post received in 1838-39 by Sir Henry Cole and his Mercantile Committee on Postage was sold for £16,500 (estimate £8,000-£10,000).

A letter penned by Oscar Wilde from his deathbed (hitherto unpublished) to Frank Harris secured a bid of £3,780 (estimate £1,000-£1,200). "... I wanted money to save my life — which was at stake — you induce me to trust you, I sign away my play, and you give me a paltry £25... and you calmly let me go to utter ruin.... I ask you to send by return the £125 that you owe me." Wilde had sold Harris the rights of *Mr and Mrs Daventry* for £175 to pay for a series of operations.

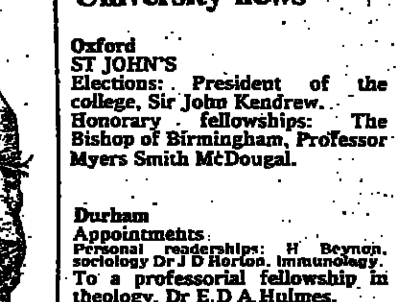
Two outstanding prices were achieved at the toy sale held yesterday at Christie's South Kensington. A tinplate model car, a Bing 1902 "Phaeton", 13½in long, sold for £3,600 (estimate £900-£1,200) to John Haley, a Yorkshire toy dealer.

A pack of cards fetched £2,600 (estimate £1,000-£1,500). It was a Tuttell pack of mathematical cards dating from about 1700, complete and in good condition. Each card depicts a trade using mathematical instruments and other tools made by Thomas Tuttell and the king of clubs incorporates Tuttell's trade card.

Prices proved very buoyant in a sale of silver and virtu at Sotheby's Belgravia (6 per cent unsold). A vast mid-nineteenth-century set of King's Husk patter table silver (586oz) went to Koopman at £11,000 (estimate £6,000-£8,000). A pair of fanciful salt cellars made by Garrard's in 1857 to a design of putti steering shellshaped boats supported on the backs of dolphins (57oz) provided a surprise at £4,400 (estimate £1,000-£1,500).

Christie's sale of Old Masters contained a highly decorative painting of a bull fight in the Piazza San Marco, Venice, which had belonged to several successive members of the Agnew family when attributed to Canaletto. Downgraded to "School of Canaletto" by the art historian, W. G. Constable, it was sold yesterday as "attributed to Giovanni Battista Cimaroli" for £27,500 (estimate £4,000-£6,000).

Birthdays today



Mr Christopher Fry, the dramatist, who is 74.

Sir Neville Ashenheim, 81; Sir Brian Batsford, 71; General Sir Edwin Bramall, 58; Lt-Cmdr. I. E. Fraser, VC, 61; Dame Celia Johnson, 73; Miss Annette Page, 49; Mr Merlyn Rees, MP, 61; Lord Robens of Woldingham, 71; Major-General Sir Reginald Scoones, 81; Mr Joe Wade, 62.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
Mr Philip Ledger to be principal of the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama in succession to Dr David Lumsden.

Rear-Admiral D J Halifax to be promoted vice-admiral in April, 1982, and to be Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic in June, 1982, in succession to Vice-Admiral Sir Cameron Rusby.

Colonel Helen G Meechie to be Director, Women's Royal Army Corps, in March, 1982, in the rank of brigadier, in succession to Brigadier Anne Field.

Dr I D Campbell to be treasurer of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh.

Dr T M Chalmers to be registrar.

Dr I W Delamore and Dr G J R McHardy to be members of the college council.

Mr J Fairgrieve of Cheltenham, to be a member of the court of examiners in general surgery of the Royal College of Surgeons for three years.

University news

Oxford
ST JOHN'S
Elections: President of the college, Sir John Kendrew.
Honorary fellowships: The Bishop of Birmingham, Professor Myers Smith McDougal.

Durham
Appointments
Personal readerships: H Beynon, sociology Dr J D Horton, immunology.
To a professorial fellowship in theology, Dr E.D A Hulmes.
David Parker, BSc, DPhil, lecturer in chemistry.

Grants
Science and Engineering Research Council £30,005 over three years to Professor B H Bransden and Dr. D R Flower for the investigation, "semi-classical calculations of charge-transfer processes".
Department of Environment: £89,517 over three years to Professor R J Cramp for the investigation, "Environmental processing".
Natural Environment Research Council: £58,142 over three years to Dr N R Goulty for the investigation, "Seismic reflection data-processing".
Medical Research Council: £40,110 over three years to Professor D F Barker for the "Histophysiological investigation of the reinnervation of mammalian muscle spindles after nerve injury".
Science and Engineering Research Council: £36,115 to Dr M J Morant and Dr P G C Allman for the investigation "Characterization, optimization and applications of novel silicon bistable devices".
Agricultural Research Council: £37,722 for Professor D Boulter to investigate "Relationship of structure to function in the legumin gene of pea seeds".

Manchester
UMIST
Grants from the Science and Engineering Research Council:
To Professor Peter Payne £39,400, for imaging using a linear ultrasonic currency employing plastic film transducers; to Professor Peter Payne and Dr J. E. Goake £38,550 for on-line measurement and display of extruded plastic hose thickness and structure using ultra sound; to Dr S. T. S. Al Hassani and Dr C. M. Leech, £29,994 for theoretical and experimental investigation into the dynamic behaviour of wire ropes; to Professor Maurice Beck, Mr R. G. Green and Dr S. T. S. Al-Hassani, £20,270 for instrumentation of impact finishing processes for robotic operation; to Dr Roy Taylor, £60,403 for microstructive strength and thermal properties of some experimental thermal barrier coatings; to Dr N. J. Blackburn, £28,780 for structural and mechanistic studies of the copper sites of dopamine-beta-hydroxylase.
To Professor J. C. Sager, R. L. Johnson and G. C. Kell, £21,738 for in-depth study of machine translation techniques; to Professor D. E. Winterbone and Dr P. C. Baruah, £40,018 for performance analysis of turbocharged petrol engines; to Dr A. J. Yule, £25,472 for turbulent mixing investigation, using probe arrays; to Professor Gordon Kirkbright and Dr R. M. Miller, £28,500 for instrumental developments in thermal wave imaging and photoacoustic spectrometry; to Dr J. A. Cullum, £30,351 for gene instability and transposable elements in streptomyces; to Professor E. H. Rhoderick and Dr K. E. Singer, £141,861 for molecular beam epitaxy for semiconductor device research; to Dr D. C. Northrop and Dr B. Hamilton, £36,050 for defects in silicon devices and microcircuits; to Dr K. Phillips and Professor M. G. Rusbridge, £31,822 for study of the increase of plasma density in the UMIST quadrupole; to Professor R. K. Bullough, £22,700 for integrability of non-linear partial differential equations with two independent variables.

Keele
Grants
From the W. E. Dunn charitable trust: £30,000 a year for the next three years to W. E. Dunn Unit of Cardiology.
From the Medical Research Council: £68,371 to Professor E. F. Evans for three years for work on fundamental and applied studies of cochlear function; £54,685 to Professor E. F. Evans for three years for work on physiological validation of the derived action potential techniques; £37,427 to Dr H. J. Yardley and Dr R. Summerly for work on mode of action of anti-inflammatory steroids in epidermal disorders: studies of receptors and phospholipase A2.
From the Science Research Council: £37,950 to Professor J. B. Lloyd for three years for work on substrate selection in pinocytosis by macrophages: an investigation using tailor-made synthetic polymers.
From the National Environment Research Council: £24,254 to Dr J. S. Bostock for work on intraspecific variation in seed characteristics in herbaceous plants.
From the West Midlands Regional Health Authority: £22,375 to Dr C. H. J. Swan and Dr J. F. Woodley for work on linear study of intestinal morphology and digestive/absorptive function in chronic renal failure to be undertaken in the Medical Institute research laboratories.

Heriot-Watt
The following will have honorary degrees conferred upon them in July and November:
DSc: Professor Ian Naismith Sneddon; Sir Peter Baxendell and Mr Duncan McDonald. DLitt: Sir Ian Morrow, Mr Ralph Erskine and Mr James Milne.

New health centre

A grant of £30,000 from the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust has helped to pay for a centre for health studies of the ethnic minorities. The centre, which has also received assistance from the Bradford Area Health Authority and Bradford University, is to be based at Bradford Royal Infirmary.

Lecture

Royal Astronomical Society
The 1981 George Darwin lecture was delivered at the meeting of the Royal Astronomical Society in London on December 11 by Professor D. D. Clayton, of Rice University, Texas. His subject was "Cosmic chemical memory: a new astronomy".

£100,000 aid for London theatre

The London theatre is to receive £100,000 for promotion throughout Britain next spring, with the intention of attracting audiences from as far away as Glasgow and Edinburgh (Our Arts Correspondent writes).

The project was announced last night by the London Tourist Board, in conjunction with the Society of West End Theatre, British Rail, London Transport and Grand Metropolitan Hotels.

Its aim is to sell a package for people, including travel, hotel and theatre, with big savings on normal prices. An exhibition train will visit 14 cities from February 22 to March 7 to advertise the deal, starting at Marylebone, and travelling to Bristol, Cardiff, Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Newcastle, Leeds, Hull, Sheffield, Nottingham and Norwich.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net, before tax paid):
Bezzley, Mr Harold Derek, of Heswell, Merseyside £287,594
Brewis, Mr Errington, of Cuckfield, west Sussex £223,423
Brunt, Mr Ian Michael, of Teddington, Middlesex, company director £203,126
May, Mr George Gilbert Charles Blount, of Basingstoke ...£292,215
Sutherland, Mr Douglas Lennox Watson, of Wokingham, Berkshire £234,906

Moreover ... Miles Kington

"We have lost so much money that we have to close down for a breather" — D'Oyly Carte spokesman.

A Song for the D'Oyly Carte Company

When you're deep in the red
And the singers aren't fed,
While the orchestra's dying of scurvy
You're entitled to feel
That a simple square meal
Wouldn't turn the whole world topsy-turvy.
But your grant has been cut
And a door has been shut
Which you couldn't quite manage a foot in.
And your old begging bowl
Has developed a hole.
— Either that, or no money's been put in.
Well, the scenery's rotting,
The costumes unknotting
And it's hard to go on with bravado
When the same castle yard
That appeared in *The Guard*
Has to house a bedraggled Mikado.
All the men of Penzance
Now have holes in their pants
And although you appeal to their bonhomie,
They're a mutinous crew
When you miss out Act Two
Just for reasons of stringent economy.
So at night, when you dream,
You enlarge on a scheme
For the opening night of a disco,
And the right man to do it
Is clearly Rod Stewart
Whom you fly in from old San Francisco.
All the Beatles come by
With Prince Charles, bringing Di,
Though it's five thousand dollars for entry,
And Roy Shaw also comes,
Waving cheques for huge sums,
But you won't let him in with the gentry.
You're an overnight star
And you eat caviar
Till the sturgeon are counter-attacking,
You're not rich, you are stinking,
But just when you're thinking
Of giving the Arts Council backing —
You awake with a start,
For you're still D'Oyly Carte
And a letter's come, signed "Liquidator".
Closing Down. All Must Go.
Though you'd like us to know
That the show must go on — but much later.

OBITUARY

SIR STIRRAT JOHNSON-MARSHALL

Pioneer in the design of prefabricated schools

Sir Stirrat Johnson-Marshall, CBE, FRIBA, who died in his Bristol office on December 16 at the age of 69, was a distinguished representative of the new type of architect that emerged after the Second World War.

This was a type which specialized in management and the harnessing of new technical resources rather than in design in the traditional aesthetic sense, and which practised architecture as a public service rather than as a private profession. It is true that in the latter part of his career Johnson-Marshall was one of the senior partners in a private architectural firm responsible for many important projects, yet his real contribution to architecture was made in the years before this, when he was successively deputy county architect of Hertfordshire and chief architect at the Ministry of Education.

He joined Hertfordshire in 1945 after serving throughout the Second World War in the Royal Engineers. Under the leadership of C. H. Aslin, the county architect, and with the support of a far-sighted education officer and a number of enterprising industrialists, Hertfordshire became the pioneer in the design and production of prefabricated school buildings, evolving an efficient and elegant type of structure adaptable to different sites and requiring a minimum of skilled labour. The county was thereby able to answer the post-war call for great numbers of new schools with a rapidity that traditional building methods could not have achieved. Johnson-Marshall was the driving-force behind this programme, which brought the Hertfordshire schools world-wide fame.

In 1948 Johnson-Marshall was brought into the Ministry of Education as chief architect. His role there was to place the Hertfordshire experience at the disposal of other education authorities, and he made the Ministry an influential centre of research and innovation concerning the relation of school buildings to educational methods. He stayed in the Ministry until 1956 when he joined with the late Sir Robert Matthew, himself until then a prominent example of an architect fulfilling the new role of public servant and administrator, in founding a highly successful private partnership. The firm of Robert Matthew, Johnson-Marshall and Partners which they built up together achieved during many years afterwards a consistently high standard of design as well as efficiency. Among the firm's commissions with which Johnson-Marshall was personally most concerned were the University of York, employing one of the prefabricated structural systems he had helped to evolve at the Ministry, and the University of Bath.

Stirrat Andrew William Johnson-Marshall was born in 1912 and trained as an architect at Liverpool University. He qualified as ARIBA in 1936. In 1954, while at the Ministry of Education, he was made CBE. He was knighted in 1971. He served for several years on the council of the RIBA and was a vice-president in 1964-65. He retired from the Matthew, Johnson-Marshall firm in 1978 and went to live in the West Country, continuing however to conduct a local practice since architecture had been his whole life and he had neither the temperament nor the breadth of interests to enable him to settle down into an existence cut off from the profession to which he had contributed so much.

In 1937 Johnson-Marshall married Joan Mary Brighouse by whom he had two sons and one daughter.

PROFESSOR C. H. WILLIAMS

The Principal of King's College, London, writes:

Professor Charles Harold Williams who died on December 8 was a powerful influence both in the University of London as a whole and in King's College where he was Professor of History from 1934 and Assistant Principal from 1945 until his retirement in 1962.

Born in 1895, his undergraduate career at Cambridge was interrupted by war service in France where he was wounded. After completing his degree he was appointed an Assistant Lecturer at University College. He quickly became part of a very notable school of Tudor historians inspired by A. F. Pollard. He continued to produce major studies in English fifteenth and sixteenth century history after his retirement when his formidable collection in the *English Historical Documents* series and his study of William Tyndale were both published.

Two characteristics of Professor Williams will remain outstanding in the memories of those who have known him here, his kindliness and his remarkable ability to keep Time at bay. Whether as teacher, supervisor or guide in the fields of XVth and XVI century historiography, as Dean of Arts or as Assistant Principal, an endless succession of students and colleagues have found him unfailingly kind, courteous, wise and helpful.

His earlier prowess on the Rugby field and his army experiences in 1914-18 gained him the respect and affection of the ex-service men of two wars: equally, his celebrated Wednesday morning lectures provided for generations of Freshmen an introduction at once graceful and stimulating to the ambience of scholarship.

He leaves a widow, Clare, and two children.

LORD STRATHEDEN AND CAMPBELL

Lord Stratheden and Campbell, CBE, died on December 12 at the age of 82.

The second son of the Hon John Beresford Campbell and the Hon Alice Susan Hamilton, daughter of the 1st Baron Hamilton of Dalzell he was born on November 21, 1899. Both his father and his elder brother were killed in action in the First World War and he succeeded as fourth baron in 1918 on the death of his grandfather.

He was educated at Eton and Sandhurst and joined the Coldstream Guards in 1919. He was Regimental Adjutant from 1931 to 1934. In the Second World War he was wounded and mentioned in despatches and from 1941 to 1944 commanded, as a lieutenant-colonel, the 5th Battalion of the Coldstream. After the war he commanded the 32nd Guards Brigade and the 4th Infantry Brigade.

He was active in public life in Scotland for many years after his retirement from the Army. He was Convener of Roxburgh County Council from 1960 to 1968 and for two years president of the Association of County Councils in Scotland. From 1956 to 1970 he was chairman of the Edinburgh and East of Scotland College of Agriculture and from 1958 to 1969 of the Hill Farming Research Organisation. He had also been Chairman of the Historic Buildings Council for Scotland. He was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant for Roxburgh in 1946 and was Vice-Lieutenant from 1962 to 1975. Edinburgh University conferred an honorary LL.D on him. He was made CBE in 1964.

He married in 1923, Jean, only daughter of Colonel W. Anstruther-Gray. They had three daughters. She died in 1956 and he married secondly in 1964 Mrs Noël Vincent.

ZOYA FYODOROVA

Zoya Fyodorova, the Russian actress, has died in Moscow in circumstances that are not exactly clear. Her death was announced in a Moscow newspaper which did not give precise details as to how she died though a friend alleged that she had been shot.

Her death recalls a romantic episode in which she was one of the principals. During the Second World War she and an American naval officer, Rear-Admiral Jackson Tate, then serving in Moscow, met and fell in love. He was later expelled from the Soviet Union and did not learn for many years that the actress had given birth to a daughter. Zoya Fyodorova was harshly treated by the Russian authorities and for "espionage" was imprisoned for some eight years.

Admiral Tate pressed for his daughter to be granted an exit visa from Russia and in 1975, the daughter, Victoria, then 29, was finally allowed to leave for the United States where she married. Her mother was also allowed to visit her daughter. It was not made public whether she and the admiral met. He died after a long illness in 1978 at the age of 79.

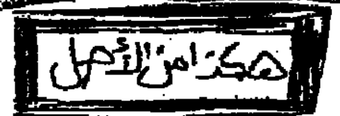
BRIGADIER C. G. ROBINS

Brigadier C. G. Robins, CBE, died on December 2 at the age of 83.

Christopher Gray Robins was born in 1893 and educated at the Imperial Service College and the Royal Military Academy. He served in the First World War with the York and Lancaster Regiment in Salonika and Macedonia and in the Second World War with the same regiment in Norway and Iceland.

He served in the E. Africa Command in 1946 and in Malaya from 1948 to 1951. He was appointed CBE in 1950, from 1949 to 1960 he was Colonel of the York and Lancaster Regiment.

Sir Thomas Ellis, Chief Justice of the High Court in Dacca, 1953-54, died on December 12 at the age of 87.



Business News

THE TIMES Friday December 18 1981

How Laker hit an air-pocket, page 17

Christmas cheer on two fronts

BSC to stay open for holiday

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

British Steel Corporation is to maintain virtually uninterrupted production runs at its main plants over Christmas and New Year, with resultant cost savings of tens of millions of pounds.

Last year, against the background of depressed demand, British Steel closed down for two full weeks, but with order books much healthier and efficiency throughout the corporation at much higher levels, works will close for only 36 hours, with closures staggered over one week. The only exception will be works in the Sheffield area producing steel in electric arc furnaces which will close for a full week over the Christmas period.

Increased demand comes from customers placing contracts with the steel corporation in advance of the 12¼ per cent price increases being implemented at the beginning of next year by European steelmakers as part of the EEC Commission-promoted plan to restore the industry to profitability.

In recent weeks, production levels have risen sharply and last month average weekly production was more than 335,000 tonnes.

Some operations have moved back into profit, including tubes and sections, and Mr Ian MacGregor, BSC chairman, earlier this month announced that half year losses had been held down to £196m.

Further efforts are being made to reduce overheads and shed jobs with a target of a total labour force of 92,400 by March 1983, two thirds of whom will be engaged in the heavy steel sector.

METRO IN DEMAND ON CONTINENT

By Clifford Webb

BL's Longbridge car plant, closed for most of last month by the "tea break" strike, is working flat out to meet an upsurge in demand from Europe for the Metro.

It is proving particularly popular in Italy, the home of the small car. Yesterday, Signor Sergio Mia, managing director of BL Italia, revealed that since the Metro was launched there six months ago it has been largely responsible for a 73 per cent increase in BL sales, from 16,182 last year to 28,000 this year. Metro sales alone are running at 1,500 a month.

Signor Mia said the upsurge this year in BL's Italian fortunes represented a six-fold increase in sales since BL Italian, the marketing company, was formed six years ago after the sale of Innocenti, BL's Italian manufacturing plant.

He said the European launch early next year of the Triumph Acclaim and other improved models would continue this progress.

BL sells the Metro in Italy, Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany and France.

Money markets may face problems

Bank stays cautious as recovery begins

By David Blake, Economics Editor

The Bank of England today says that the worst of the recession is now over but is cautious about the prospects for a strong recovery. In its *Quarterly Bulletin* the Bank gives a warning that growth will depend largely on an improvement in competitiveness, which in turn will need continued growth in productivity. The Bank sees no hope of any sharp reduction in unemployment in the near future.

There is also a warning that the money markets face difficulties in the next few months which could be even worse than in the early months of 1981.

This will present the authorities with a choice between letting interest rates rise or pumping liquidity into the system, thus making it harder to meet the Government's monetary targets. The Bank says that its new system of monetary control will make it easier for it to handle this problem.

The bulletin is more optimistic in tone than previous statements, which have said that the economy flattened out in the summer. Now it says that the rise in output in the third quarter suggests recovery has begun.

But final demand, both from investment and consumer spending is likely to be weak. The main force behind recovery so far is the slowing down of destocking, which has been going on throughout the year.

The bulletin says that there is bound to be a setback in the fight against inflation as the effects of sterling's slide work through. However, it agrees with the Treasury that inflation at the end of next year will be around 10 per cent.

Hopes for better performance on inflation and output rest heavily on pay moderation and rising productivity combining to keep down costs. On productivity, the Bank remains unsure whether the gains which have been registered this year are just a temporary phenomenon or not.

On the monetary front, there is clear unease about the pace of bank lending. It argues that some of the mortgage money lent by banks has been diverted to finance other kinds of consumption. It feels that this cannot go on indefinitely, since people will not want to saddle themselves with ever larger debts.

Lending to businesses is likely to be affected by the drain on companies' finances as the effects of the Civil Service strike unwind. This will mean that companies' liquidity positions are likely to get worse after the respite of the summer.

Private bank lending, not government borrowing, is thought to be the main driving force behind the growth in the money supply, which officials do not expect to be brought back within the 7 to 11 per cent target range set by the Government.

☐ There may be some hesitation in economic recovery around the middle of next year, according to the Central Statistical Office. Its cyclical indicators published yesterday confirmed that the economy probably reached turning point in the second quarter

The longer leading indicator, which forecasts the economy about a year in advance, rose in November for the first time since May. This suggests that after flickering in the summer, expansion may speed up at the end of next year.

Further investment decline forecast

By Melvyn Westlake

MANUFACTURING INVESTMENT
£000m — 1975 prices seasonally adjusted excluding leased assets
4.0 3.8 3.6 3.4 3.2 3.0 2.8
70 72 74 76 79 81 82
estimate — Range of intentions

Britain's manufacturers are planning to cut their business investment in 1982, for the third consecutive year. But the drop in investment in new buildings, vehicles, plant and machinery is ending. Next year, the decline will be much smaller than in either 1980 or 1981, when capital spending by manufacturers experienced the biggest two-year slump for decades.

According to the latest survey of investment carried out by the Department of Industry, there will be some recovery in manufacturers' capital spending during 1982 and an "appreciable increase" during 1983. The survey, which covered manufacturers accounting for a third of all such spending, suggests that it will drop by between 1 and 6 per cent in 1982 in real terms (after allowing for higher prices). This, however, excludes assets leased to manufacturers. If leased assets are included, the fall seems likely to be about 1 per cent. This would give total capital spending of about £8,000m in 1982 cash prices.

Provisional estimates indicate a fall for the current year of 17 per cent in real terms (13 per cent if leased assets are included), after a drop of some 10 per cent in 1980.

The survey also shows that capital spending by the distributive and service industries will continue to be much more buoyant than in manufacturing.

Despite the recession, distributive and service industries continue to boost their capital spending to record levels. It is now expected to rise by about 4 per cent both this year and next, reaching about £15,000m in 1982 cash prices. A further rise of about 5 per cent is tentatively expected in 1983.

INCREASE IN BANK LENDING

By John Whitmore

Bank lending to the private sector jumped by £2,577m in the banking month to mid-November, an even larger jump than the £2,200m in July last year after the removal of the banking "corset".

But with the public sector acting as a negative influence on domestic credit, and external influences proving contractionary, the rise in sterling M3, the broad-based definition of banking money, was held to £368m, or 0.5 per cent.

With large payments of back-tax falling during the banking month, which covered the four weeks to November 18, the central Government made a surplus of £1.05m. In addition, the non-bank private sector took up £1,354m of public sector debt, including £1,212m of gilt-edged stock.

As well as its large sterling borrowing, the private sector also borrowed £540m in foreign currency.

Part of the increase in bank lending can be put down to the financing of payments of back tax due to the Exchequer. But bank mortgage lending also expanded and some companies appear to be borrowing more as output recovers.

£1,200m exports to Nigeria at risk

By Baron Phillips

British exports worth more than £1,200m are at risk after a budget speech by Mr Shehu Shagari, the Nigerian president, in Lagos on Wednesday aimed at halting the country's decline in official reserves.

Few details of the speech have reached either the Department of Trade or the Nigerian High Commission.

A spokesman from the Department of Trade said last night that moves to curb imports could be the result of the downturn in Nigeria's oil revenues.

According to early news agency reports, President Shagari is anxious to reduce foreign currency outflows and to combat smuggling, which has undermined earlier attempts to control the country's import bill. The president also said that Nigeria would increase its borrowings abroad next year by 30 per cent to Naira 2,050m (£1,700m).

Britain is the biggest exporter to Nigeria and stands to lose most from an imports curb. In 1980 about 22 per cent of the country's non-oil imports, worth some £1,208m, came from Britain.

Mr Robert Holmes a' Court : he's not looking for a job.

Stepping into the ACC limelight

By David Hewson

The City was in two minds yesterday over whether the elevation of Mr Robert Holmes a'Court to the board of Lord Grade's troubled Associated Communications Corporation amounted to the timely arrival of the United States Cavalry or a telling late debut appearance by Sitting Bull.

Were the encounter to have taken place in one of the feature films which have cost ACC so dear, it would, without doubt, have had a happy ending in which the 74-year-old cigar-chewing former tap dancer walked off into the sunset with the aristocratic and elusive businessman from Australia.

This was the script outline being offered by Mr Holmes a'Court yesterday who, in a rare interview, was at pains to point out that control of ACC, which has historically been largely in the hands of Lord Grade, was not a point of issue.

"I am certainly not looking for a job, I can promise you I am not on the market", he said.

Other analysts of the turmoils within the ACC empire regarded this view as the sort of thing which ought to stay in the company's film plots. They point to the continuing divisions on the ACC board about recent losses and the departure of Mr Jack Gill, managing director, and expect that Lord Grade's often-voiced retirement date of 2001 may prove unrealistic.

Looking forward to his 75th birthday on Christmas Day, Lord Grade joined Mr Holmes a'Court yesterday to talk about the role he will play and announce that two others, Mr Derek Williams, group treasurer, and Mr Tony Lucas, group secretary, are also to be appointed to the ACC board.

Mr Holmes a'Court said he had decided to take a stake in ACC because, while the company had been through difficult times, it had good medium to long term prospects.

He now owns 51 per cent of the company's non-voting stock, bought at a cost he estimated at between A$25m and A$26m (£15m to £15.5m), priced at between 40p and 60p a share. The level of Mr Holmes a'Court's stake led Lord Grade to offer him a seat on the board, and 4,500 voting shares, three per cent of the total.

"I have learnt a great deal from him", Lord Grade said.

"He can't say it but I can because I am relaxed, I really am learning a great deal from him".

"You take a knock and you learn from it to try to put into action as quickly as possible the steps that will prevent these knocks from happening again.

"I am hoping the world will forget about *Raise The Titanic* (the company's biggest feature film loss) and those so-called flops and will mention the successes", Lord Grade added.

Mr Holmes a'Court, who says he will be a non-executive director, has been buying ACC shares for some time, but has also been interested in other United Kingdom companies. He put in a bid to buy *The Times*, when the paper, *The Sunday Times* and the supplements were put on the market.

He made an unsuccessful bid for Rolls-Royce, and yesterday denied a report from Australia that he had been involved in talks with Trafalgar House about the purchase of Express Newspapers. But Mr Holmes a'Court would not rule out the possibility of buying a national newspaper in Britain.

He arrived in Australia in 1962 at the age of 24, and is now reputed to be one of the country's richest men. Born into an English family in South Africa, he studied agriculture in New Zealand before doing law at the University of Western Australia.

The first sighs of entrepreneurial enterprise appeared when he founded a university flying club and persuaded Sir Reginald Ansett, the airline chief to become its patron. Years later he made a bid for Ansett Airlines itself, letting it drop, for a £6m profit, to go to Mr Rupert Murdoch.

☐ Mr Cyril Stein and Mr Robert Maxwell were named last night as shareholders in the new Central Independent Television company which replaces ATV but where ACC owns 51 per cent, Philip Robinson writes.

The Independent Broadcast Authority has approved the Ladbroke Group headed by Mr Stein, holding 10 per cent and Pergamon Press and British Prnting Corporation, where Mr Maxwell is chairman, holding 8 per cent.

Largest shareholder with 15 per cent is D. C. Thomson. Others include the Prudential Assurance Company with 5 per cent, Legal & General, and British Rail pension fund with 2 per cent each.

The balance is held by 1,000 small investors in the Midlands including more than 200 members of Central's staff.

Trident to pay £14.6m for Playboy empire

By Philip Robinson

Trident Television yesterday signed the deal for Playboy casinos and betting shops at a price £2.4m cheaper than originally announced. But the deal will mean the almost certain departure of Admiral Sir John Treacher, brought in by Playboy to replace the flamboyant Mr Victor Lownes to head the London casino operation. Sir John will leave with a golden handshake of as much as £400,000.

Trident will pay £14.6m for the Playboy Club, the Clermont, the Victoria, two provincial casinos, half shares in two others and 81 betting shops. It has taken on the appeal against the withdrawal of gaming licences at the Playboy and Clermont and will also defend the Victoria at a renewal hearing.

It has already sought Gaming Board certificates of consent needed to apply for new licences should the appeals be unsuccessful.

Playboy is taking back to the United States about £27m. This includes the Trident sale price and cash in the Playboy accounts which is being paid to them as dividends and which caused a four-day delay over the signing of the agreement. Trident shareholders will be asked to approve the deal at a meeting on January 5.

ICL LOAN COMES UNDER FIRE

By Bill Johnstone

The Government has been criticized for providing ICL, the British computer company, with a £200m loan guarantee completely free of charge in a report by the House of Commons Committee of Public Accounts published yesterday.

However, the Central Computer and Telecommunications Agency said in evidence submitted to the committee that had the company not survived, it would have cost the Government £150m to £250m for the conversion and reprogramming of ICL equipment.

The agency is the Civil Service department responsible for advising the Government

The accounts committee says that the Department of Industry should review its policy on such loans and that it should consider some form of charge, possibly in the form of a deferred payment which could be reduced if the company was able to dispense with all or part of the loan guarantee.

ICL reported a net loss for the last financial year of £133.1m earlier this week

Stock Markets
FT Index 518.7 down 1.9
FT Gilts 62.56 down 0.15
FT All Share 308.90 up 0.11
Bargains 13,669

Sterling
$ 1.8870 down 5 pts
Index 90.1 down 0.1
New York : $1.8840

Dollar
Index 107.3 up 0.1
DM 2.2757 down 23 pts

Gold
$416.50 unchanged
New York : $415.50

Money
3 mth sterling 15½-15¾
3 mth Euro $ 13 7/16-13 9/16
6 mth Euro $14 7/16-14 9/16

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

AE PLC	6½p to 44½p
Bk of Scotland	15p to 492p
Barratt Devs	7p to 207p
Cap & Counties	9p to 115p
Eng China Clays	8p to 159p
ERF Hldgs	6p to 47p
First Nat Fin	4p to 35½p
Henlys	29p to 124p
Int Thomson	8p to 298p
Kinross	15p to 668p
Minet Hldgs	11p to 140p
Newmark L.	7p to 310p
Sotheby PB	10p to 420p
Syltone	8p to 168p
Tube Inv	6p to 114p

Falls

Churchbury Est	5p to 650p
Distillers	13p to 165p
Doranakande	6p to 127p
Dowty	5p to 135p
Geevor Tin	5p to 155p
Grootvlei	12p to 503p
Husky Oil	10p to 470p
Hutch Wamp	7p to 159p
Jardine Math	7p to 169p
Mills & Allen	5p to 453p
Paterson Zoch	5p to 136p
Pret Port Cem	20p to 370p
Shell	4p to 404p
Weeks Pet	10p to 310p
Wheelock Mdn	2½p to 59p

US trade fears grow

Mr Robert Hormats, United States Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs who has just returned from trade talks in Brussels, has told business leaders that relations between the United States and Europe are at a low ebb which could poison political and commercial relations in coming months, (Bailey Morris writes from Washington). He expressed little hope that Americans and Europeans would be able to resolve their mounting differences.

Mr Hormats, who has handled trade negotiations for the past three American Administrations, said changes in attitudes and leaders were threatening the Western Alliance as never before.

Elliott fights Jenks bid

Elliott Group of Peterborough is attempting to turn the tables on Jenks and Cattell which is making a £6.8m contested takeover bid. Instead of telling its own shareholders to reject the entire Jenks package, Elliott has been urging Jenks's shareholders to vote against the deal at a special meeting due after Christmas. Jenks could not go through with the bid without the backing of its own shareholders.

☐ Mr Ian Hay Davison, the managing partner of Arthur Andersen, the City chartered accountants, is to be the new chairman of the Accounting Standards Committee. He will take up his position from July 1982.

Business Diary, page 17

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Henlys inquiry likely

A Stock Exchange inquiry into the dealings of shares in Henlys, the BL car distributor, is almost certain after yesterday's dawn raid on the company by Sternberg, Thomas Clarke, the stockbrokers.

The brokers announced in the market at 9.30 am that they were prepared to buy two million Henlys shares (14.4 per cent) at 125p. The company issued a statement almost immediately telling shareholders to do nothing and that assets (at 250p a share) were well above the price offered.

The shares then jumped to 132p but came back sharply to close at 124p when Sternberg withdrew their offer. They are believed to have control of about 500,000 shares, half of which came from British Car Auctions, although they declined to comment last night.

Henlys shares started moving up on Wednesday after months of languishing. They spurted 14p to 95p last night when it is thought there were two persistent buyers about.

Mr Gordon Chandler, Henlys chairman, said: "We are considering asking for an inquiry. There have been a lot of leaks and it appears someone got in on the act and out again with a substantial profit. We shall decide with our advisers."

It is still a mystery who was behind the buying. The market was suggesting everyone from British Car Auctions to Mr David Abele of Suter Electricals which recently built a stake in the Appleyard group of car distributors.

Mr Chandler said: "I am assured that the Bank of Scotland (with 25.5 per cent) are not sellers. I have had no contact with anyone who would be interested."

Kissin talks continue

Attempts to patch up the differences between Lord Kissin and Mr Edmund Dell appear to have delayed Kissin supportres' partial offer for the Guinness Peat Group.

Contrary to expectations that the bid would be launched yesterday, talks continued between Hambros, advising Lord Kissin, and Morgan Grenfell Guinness Peat's merchant banking advisers.

The Bank of England has been acting as more than an interested observer because of its concern over the future of Guinness Mahon, one of the accepting houses.

Mr Dell has been fighting a tough rearguard battle to prevent Lord Kissin making a partial offer but it seems that all the talks over the past week have been aimed at avoiding a public dispute.

CBI against tax cuts

Confederation of British Industry leaders last night told Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, that industrial competitiveness was more important than cuts in income tax. They urged him to favour industry in next spring's Budget.

Tax cuts would result in a consumer-led boom which would be the wrong road to take, Sir Terence Beckett, the CBI director general, said. Sluggish economic growth of about 1 per cent next year would not be enough to allow industry to take advantage of the considerable improvement industry had made in its ability to compete.

17 North Sea oil discoveries

Mr Hamish Gray, Minister of State at the Department of Energy, said yesterday that 17 North Sea oil discoveries had been made in the last three years and more were to be announced by oil companies. Giving evidence to the Commons Select Committee on Energy, he denied that North Sea oil taxation had hampered exploration work, and was an element of oil depletion policy.

☐ World coffee production in 1981-82 should reach a record 96.9 million bags, a 15 per cent increase on last season, the United States agriculture department said.

Steel fines appeal

Klöckner-Werke, the German steel company, has lodged an appeal with the European Court of Justice contesting a fine of about £1.25m imposed last month by the EEC Commission for exceeding its steel production quota in the first quarter of 1981.

TODAY

Retail prices index, tax and prices index, and usable steel production (all November). Sales and orders in the engineering industries (September).

Company results: ERF, Davenports Brewery, Reliant Motors, United Scientific (all half-yearly).

Industry chiefs seek priority for UK suppliers

By Our Industrial Editor

Renewed efforts are being made by leading industrialists to direct to United Kingdom suppliers more of the estimated £50,000m of purchases made annually by central and local government, state industries and large companies.

Although industrialists insist that the campaign is not a naked "Buy British" policy regardless of terms, they believe that more positive purchasing policies could provide a significant boost to the economy.

Sir Raymond Pennock, president of the Confederation of British Industry has appealed to trade associations to urge their members to give priority to domestic suppliers.

Sir Derek Ezra, chairman of the National Coal Board is among state industry chairmen urging greater awareness of the issue. The coal board spends about £1,000m a year on equipment and services with more than 97 per cent going to British companies. The CBI believes that if other substantial public sector purchasers aimed at a similar level of domestic purchases it would have a significant impact on economic activity.

The Government last year introduced new guidelines for public purchasing aimed at encouraging government departments and local authorities to enhance the international competitiveness of British suppliers. The policy is coordinated by the Treasury and the Department of Industry.

In a report published yesterday, the powerful Common Committee of Public Accounts said that the application of the policy, including the use of enlightened procurement procedures, would require the exercise of considerable skill and judgment by purchasing officers.

Third report from the Committee of Public Accounts, House of Commons Paper 29, HMSO £2.45.

30 training centres to be named

By Bill Johnstone

The locations of 30 Information Technology Centres to be set up for the training of the young unemployed are to be announced by the Government on Monday.

Also to be announced are the names of several hundred British companies which will be involved in either providing finance or technical support for the centres, where trainees will learn electronics, computer programming and related skills. Among them will be IBM, ICL, Ferranti, Marconi, Northern Engineering Industries, Cable & Wireless, and GEC.

Most of the centres are expected to be completed and fully operational by the end of next year — which has already been designated Information Technology Year.

The centres will be in Strathclyde and Dundee, Flint, Portsmouth, London (Camden, Hackney, Haringey, Brixton, Southwark), Bristol (two locations), Birmingham, Coventry, Leicester, Walsall, Telford, Liverpool (five locations), Manchester (Moss Side plus one other), Salford, Warrington, Leeds, Sheffield, Newcastle, Sunderland, and Gateshead.

£300m to revive West of Scotland

From Our Correspondent, Glasgow

Details of a £300m plan for the economic regeneration of the West of Scotland were revealed in Glasgow yesterday.

About £200m will come from the Scottish Development Agency. Strathclyde Regional Council and the district councils will give the rest.

Councillor Dick Stewart, leader of Strathclyde Regional Council said "This is the biggest single initiative for the creation of jobs and the improvement of living conditions ever undertaken by a local authority in Britian."

The plan covers 12 areas which are considered to be in urgent need of renewal. These are Alexandria; Renfrew; Blantyre/Hamilton; Wishaw/Bellshill; Coatbridge; Kilmarnock; Greenock/Port Glasgow; Saltcoats; Govan/Ibrox; Part Dundas; Finnieston; and Glasgow city centre.

These areas will also be given priority in Strathclyde's £1,300m annual budget for education, training, transport and infrastructure facilities.

Coucilllor Charles Gray, deputy leader of the council, said that these areas were chosen partly for the number of small companies located in them which could be helped to grow.

He estimated that the economic recovery programme would take from three to five years.

Peter Hill explores the controversial Lawson Bill

North Sea Sale of the Century

Mr Nigel Lawson, Secretary of State for Energy, and his officials, cannot be accused of moving at a snail's pace. It is two months, almost to the day, since his initial announcement that the Government was to take powers to sell off the oil production interests of the British National Oil Corporation, the offshore oil activities of the British Gas Corporation and to break the corporation's gas purchasing monopoly. Yesterday brought the detailed and lengthy Bill which has already attracted a storm of protest from the TUC and the Opposition and which is promised an equally stormy passage through Parliament.

Apart from fundamentally altering the ownership of a not insignificant part of the nation's offshore oil assets, the Energy Secretary is seeking greater powers of direction over British Gas.

The Oil and Gas (Enterprise) Bill, which the Government hopes will complete its parliamentary passage by next autumn was described by Mr Lawson yesterday as: "the biggest privatisation exercise ever introduced by any British Government." And he claimed it would also give a big boost to the development of Britain's natural gas resources. "It represents a major commitment to reducing the role of the State and replacing monopoly by competition in the interests of enterprize, efficiency and initiative."

Its provisions fall into four main sections embracing the disposal of BNOC's offshore production interests — although the Government will retain a 49 per cent stake — while leaving the corporation's oil trading activities unchanged. This is to safeguard the national interests, since BNOC will continue to handle 51 per cent of all oil production from the United Kingdom sector of the North Sea through participation agreements with other oil companies.

BNOC will form a Scottish registered company Britoil, a name given four years ago to a BNOC-established, American-registered company as part of a deal to finance development of its North Sea interests.

Market conditions permitting, the majority of shares in Britoil will be offered by the end of next year. The Bill requires BNOC to make arrangements for employee share schemes in the new company.

Articles of association for the new company, which ar still to be published, will be structured to safeguard against unacceptable changes in control. As a result of the planned disposals, the financial structure of BNOC will be recast and will include severing of links with the National Oil Account which is to be abolished.



Engineer at work aboard a North Sea gas production platform

Similarly British Gas will be required to establish subsidiary companies, with employee share schemes for those companies. It will be obliged to dispose of the companies — principally the oil interests — although the timing of those disposals has yet to be determined.

On the crucial and controversial issue of removing the gas corporation's special purchasing rights, the Bill will repeal section 8 of the 1976 Energy Act and two new sections will be introduced to the 1972 Gas Act whose broad effect will be to create three categories of gas consumer. These are:

☐ Industrial customers consuming more than 1 million therms annually, estimated to account for between one third and a half of all commercial customers, who will be free to buy from the supplier of their choice.

☐ The bulk of domestic consumers taking less then 25,000 therms where British Gas will continue as sole supplier.

☐ Private companies falling between the two other groups of users who will be free to choose their supplier but only with consent of the Energy Secretary.

That approval will be conditional on safety arrangements being satisfactory and those measures fulfilling the Government's pledge to remove the gas corporation's statutory obligation to supply gas on request. The Bill also provides for appropriate changes in safety legislation and measures to ensure gas quality.

Under the Bill's other provisions private suppliers of gas will be given access to the Corporation's pipelines and Mr Lawson is seeking powers which will enable him to direct British Gas to increase capacity of pipelines to accommodate the private sector.

In cases where companies are unable to agree terms on the conveyance of their supplies by the corporation, they can appeal to the Enrgy Secretary to arbitrate.

British Gas will also be required to give advance warning to the Secretary of State when it intends to build new high pressure pipelines.

The Government is still treading water over its plans to sell off the gas corporation's showrooms, although the Bill contains the necessary powers.

That move, however remains suspended since the Government's wishes — hotly contested by British Gas — cannot be accomplished until essential legislation governing safety standards is introduced. This is not expected until 1982-83.

Other provisions of the Bill will modify existing petroleum legislation, covering safety zones around offshore installations, and on safety regulations relating to offshore accommodation platforms.

IN BRIEF

Warrant issued for tycoon

☐ A French judge has issued an international arrest warrant for M Pierre Latecoere, an industrialist who is accused of illegally transferring FF23m (£2m) worth of gold to a bank in Toronto and opening secret Swiss bank accounts in violation of currency regulations.

M Latecoere allegedly transferred the assets through Paribas, the French financial firm, after the Socialist election victory this spring.

Paribas executives also have been charged in connection with a number of *allegedly illegal transfers* following the socialist victory.

New research group

☐ United States semiconductor makers are banding together to conduct joint research in advanced semiconductor technology. The move is seen as an attempt to blunt Japan's competivive edge in some areas of research.

US trade surplus up

☐ The United States registered a seasonally adjusted trade surplus of $2,100m (£1,111m) in its balance of payments on the current account in the third quarter this year. This follows a revised surplus of $1,140m in the second quarter.

MFA working text

☐ A working text of a protocol to make the 52-nation Multi-Fibre Arrangement more restrictive has emerged after intense discussions in Gernva.

Suzuki waiting

☐ Suzuki, the Japanese motor company, is still awaiting Pakistan Government approval of a plan ot increase vehicle production in Pakistan in cooperation with the state-run automobile corporation.

Ports threat

☐ Australian ports face a national shutdown from next week because of an industrial dispute.

Technology by Clive Cookson

IBM breaks into viewdata market

IBM has burst spectacularly into the international battle to sell videotex, the technology that brings computerized information to home and business television screens by telephone or broadcasting.

The world's largest computer company snatched a £12m contract to equip the West German public viewdata service from the British consortium which is marketing Prestel.

(To clear up the confusing nomenclature: videotex or videotext — with or without a T — is the name for the technology as a whole. It is called viewdata when the information is transmitted by telephone line, and teletext — always with a T — when it is broadcast over the airwaves using the "spare capacity" present in normal TV signals.)

Loss of the German order was particularly galling for the Prestel consortium, which includes British Telecom, GEC Computers and Aregon International (the software company), because its system has been on trial with the German Bundespost (Post Office) for the past two years. The American rival is a new system with no experience in public service.

Nonetheless, Prestel executives are looking determinedly on the bright side: that the entry of IBM should boost the progress of videotex as a whole — private as well as public — by adding credibility to the technology.

IBM has hit the market as it is about to take off. West Germany is the first large country to award a competitive contract for a national viewdata system. Holland, Italy, Austria and Switzerland may follow soon; Prestel is being tried in all four countries.

Prestel was the world's first public viewdata service, just as the BBC with Ceefax and ITV with Oracle pioneered the technology of teletext. Unfortunately — without wishing to sound too familiar a refrain — it looks increasingly as though being first will not put Britain into a position to make a killing in the international marketplace.

Officially, the West German order was lost simply because IBM's bid was slightly below Prestel's. But there has been speculation in the trade press — denied indignantly by the British group — that Bundespost preferred the software offered by IBM.

Prestel software is written in "Babbage", a language that works only on GEC computers. On January 1, GEC formally takes charge of marketing the combination of its hardware and Prestel software worldwide, except in North America.

The distinction between viewdata and teletext is blurred in the United States, where cable television is likely to be an important delivery system for videotex. British Telecom has joined forces with Logica, the software company that helped the BBC develop Ceefax, to market Prestel and Ceefax in North America.

The joint venture, called British Videotex and Teletext (BVT), is operating as a lobbying as well as a sales organization. Unfortunately, BVT failed to persuade the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to adopt the British standard for American teletext. But it did thwart the French who were lobbying for their rival standard. The FCC has gone for an "open market" approach with no specific standard; the marketplace will replace traditional government regulation.

This year, Logica has sold Ceefax (known as Context in the United States) to two American broadcasters. Field Electronic Publishing is already trying it out in Chicago, while Taft Broadcasting starts a trial with the television station it owns in Cincinnati on January 1.

This year, 26 members of the European Conference on Posts and Telecommunications (CEPT) agreed on a European videotex standard that embraces the rival French and British systems. CEPT has now proposed to the FCC in Washington that a world videotex standard be drawn up to combine the European and American-Canadian approaches.

It would not be cheap, because of the electronic interconversion required, but if the price of microprocessors continues to plunge it should become commercially feasible.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	14½%
Barclays	14½%
BCCI	14½%
Consolidated Crds	15 %
C. Hoare & Co	*14½%
Lloyds Bank	14½%
Midland Bank	14½%
Nat Westminster	14½%
TSB	14½%
Williams & Glyn's	14½%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 12½%, up to £50,000 13½%, over £50,000 13½%.

Business Appointments

CHAIRMAN OF PANEL RETIRES

Lord Cross of Chelsea has retired from the chairmanship of the Appeal Committee of the Panel on Take-overs and Mergers. The Governor of the Bank of England has approved the appointment of Sir Henry Fisher, president of Wolfson College, Oxford, and formerly a judge of the High Court of Justice, Queen's Bench Division, to take Lord Cross's place.

Mr P. N. M. Rudder has been appointed a director of The British Electric Traction Company.

Mr Anthony Eastwood has been appointed group finance director of Ransome Hoffman Pollard.

Mr H. M. P. Miles is to become deputy chairman of Hong Kong Aircraft Engineering Company and Mr D. A. Gledhill is to become a director of the company.

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div (p)	Yld %	P/E Actual	P/E Fully Taxed
117	100	ABI Hldgs 10% CULS	117	—	10.0	8.5	—	—
76	39	Airsprung Group	66	—	4.7	7.1	10.5	14.5
52	21	Armitage & Rhodes	43	—	4.3	10.0	3.6	8.1
200	92½	Bardon Hill	195	—	9.7	5.0	9.5	11.5
104	88	Deborah Services	88	—	5.5	6.3	4.4	8.3
126	88	Frank Horsell	123	—	6.4	5.2	11.1	26.7
110	39	Frederick Parker	65	—	1.7	2.6	28.3	—
110	46	George Blair	46	—	—	—	—	—
102	93	IPC	100	—	7.3	7.3	7.2	10.9
113	59	Jackson Group	97	—	7.0	7.2	3.1	6.9
130	103	James Burrough	114	—	8.7	7.6	8.3	10.5
334	244	Robert Jenkins	263	—	31.3	11.9	3.7	9.3
59	50	Scruttons "A"	54	—	5.3	9.8	8.3	7.7
224	167	Torday & Carlisle	167	—	10.7	6.4	5.4	9.9
23	8	Twinlock Ord	13	—	—	—	—	—
90	68	Twinlock 15% ULS	73	—	15.0	20.5	—	—
56	32	Unilock Holdings	32	—	3.0	9.4	5.7	9.7
103	77	Walter Alexander	77	—	6.4	8.3	5.1	9.0
263	181	W. S. Yeates	212	—	13.1	6.2	4.0	8.2

هكذا من الأصل

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

The monetary tightrope

The latest Bank of England Quarterly Bulletin, together with the full November money supply figures, only serve to emphasise that the authorities will be walking a monetary tightrope through the rest of the winter. The increase in bank lending to the private sector of over £2,500m in banking November may well prove exceptional. Indeed, the authorities' belief is that the recent surge in personal sector credit demand is unsustainable and that the short term adverse effects of higher interest rates on the monetary aggregates (raising the amount of interest added to accounts) will soon be followed by some contraction in overall credit demand.

MONETARY GROWTH

% change	M1	£M3	M3	PSL2
Last month	0.5	0.5	-0.1	0.2
Last 12 months	10.7	14.9	21.4	12.3
Annual rate since Feb.	9.8	17.2	23.2	13.0

But so it had better be, for all the signs of a strong revival in corporate borrowing are already there — partly to finance deferred and seasonal tax payments, but also to finance the recovery in output. The authorities are currently using exhortation to encourage the banks to show some foresight and self-discipline. But what if the banks take no notice? The authorities themselves are clearly reluctant to overfund the PSBR to offset the impact of bank lending on the money supply. Presumably, they would be reluctant to use the interest rate regulator too. What does that leave other than direct credit controls or tighter liquidity requirements?

At the same time, of course, the banks might well ask whether it is entirely fair for the authorities to be on their backs in such circumstances. A good deal of the increase in credit currently being supplied to the private sector takes the form of bill finance rather than overdrafts — a trend that makes the authorities' handling of money in times of persistent shortage that much easier.

Distillers

UK sales down

Distillers' figures for the half year to September 30 are disappointing. Sales in the United Kingdom fell from £117m to £115m, while export sales rose mainly as a result of price increases. Pretax profits fell from £74.1m to £65.6m.



Mr J. R. Cater, chairman of the Distillers Company

The company had, of course, forewarned of the problem at the time of the 1980 results: sales to distributors in the last quarter of that year had accelerated to beat Budget price rises. Unfortunately, there is still no sign of recovery in the world market, where demand for scotch whisky remains weak. Pick-up in demand had been expected as the pre-Budget stocks were run-down, but this has happened more slowly than Distillers expected. As a result, the volume targets announced a few months ago have had to be revised downward — the second year running that this has happened.

So with its 50 per cent share of what are expected to be substantial losses at United Glass, and little prospect of disposing of any of its BP shareholding, the company says it expects its profits to fall short of last year's £172.3m.

Analysts' forecast put the profit figure for this year in the range £160m-£165m, though they also expect the dividend to be held at last year's level, of 11p (gross). The half year dividend has already been maintained at 4.28p (gross). Sterling export prices are due to be adjusted early in the new year and this plus a possible increase in volume as the recession ends could help Distillers to a happier 1982.

English China Clays

Second half recovery

English China Clays has come up trumps with pretax profits for the year to September £1.£m higher at £41.7m — a remarkable upturn from the first half when full year estimates as low as £30m were being bandied about.

Sales volume in clays for the year was in fact some 11 per cent down. But the fall in United Kingdom production, down 250,000 tons in the first half, has been held to no more than 50,000 tons in the second six months. So, helped by an 8 per cent price rise last January and increase in efficiency — the overall workforce is down 1,000 to 11,000 — pretax profits from clay come out £3m higher at £28m. Elsewhere, the construction division held up well in the face of recession, but not so the quarrying operations, where profits were cut £2.7m to £7.2m.

With another lift in the final dividend the total is 10.2p gross, giving a yield of 6.4 per cent on the shares, up 8p to 159p yesterday. ECC should be a considerable beneficiary of an economic upturn — but RTZ, the oft-mentioned potential bidder clearly has its sights set elsewhere at the moment.

Japanese industry

Less dependent on bank finance

The role of the banks in financing Japanese industry, so much admired by critics of the British system, is itself under pressure and undergoing fundamental changes, according to an intriguing article in the Bank of England's Quarterly Bulletin.

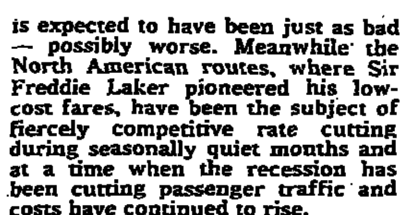
The first oil shock of 1973-74 set up the stresses and strains, by interrupting temporarily and slowing more permanently Japan's astonishing postwar expansion. And the growing pressure on Japan to liberalise her financial markets, to finance both inward and outward investment, has made the traditional dependence on bank financing increasingly untenable.

The oil crisis demonstrated tellingly the dragging burden of high and inflexible interest costs on bank debt at a time of recession when profits are low. This spurred Japanese companies to try to increase their financial independence by generating more funds internally and diversifying sources of external finance.

The result: internal financing ratios have risen from between 40 to 50 per cent before 1973 to nearly 60 per cent — close to typical British levels, while equity ratios in manufacturing have jumped from 17 per cent in 1975 to 21 per cent in 1980, reversing the previous trend. Japanese companies are also seeking to raise more money abroad.

(Because of Japanese accounting procedures equity ratios may be significantly understated. The article suggest that adjustments to the official 1975 figure for all industries of 14 per cent could bring the ratio to between 40 and 50 per cent, not very different from other industrialized countries.)

How Laker hit an air-pocket



Sir Freddie Laker in happier days with the arrival of his first Airbus at Gatwick.

'In financial terms 1980 was the worst year yet for airlines and 1981 is expected to have been just as bad — possibly worse'

Sir Freddie Laker, the man who pioneered cheap air travel with his transatlantic Skytrain service, seemed close to solving the crisis facing Laker Airways last night. Attempts over several months to reschedule $359m (£190m) of loans used to buy aircraft had run into trouble and amid mounting concern the Bank of England joined the effort to find an answer. Yesterday evening it appeared that a solution was imminent.

The crisis threatening to overwhelm Laker was brought to a head by the refusal of three foreign banks owed $27m to agree to the debt rescheduling proposals. The banks, Dresdner Bank and Bayerische Vereinsbank of West Germany and the Austrian Creditanstalt-Bankverein, are part of the 13-member Midland Bank syndicate which lent Laker $131m to buy three A-300 airbuses from Airbus Industrie.

They were the only ones which would not go along with proposals to delay for 12 months two $6.5m capital repayments due in January and July 1981.

The failure of the Midland Bank syndicate to reach agreement in turn threatened the deal hammered out with the American government agency Eximbank which led a syndicate providing Laker with $228m to buy five McDonnell Douglas DC10s. Laker was due to repay $12.6m of this in September but a breathing space was granted and in November Eximbank agreed to a 12-month rescheduling provided a deal was reached with the Midland syndicate.

At the end of last week the Eximbank deadline expired and a deadline of January 6 was set.

Concern over Laker's financial state and the appalling conditions on the transatlantic air routes, where all the airlines are making heavy losses, lay behind the refusal of the Austrian and two West German banks to step into line.

In financial terms 1980 was the worst year yet for airlines and 1981 is expected to have been just as bad — possibly worse. Meanwhile the North American routes, where Sir Freddie Laker pioneered his low-cost fares, have been the subject of fiercely competitive rate cutting during seasonally quiet months and at a time when the recession has been cutting passenger traffic and costs have continued to rise.

Laker's cash flow has suffered and the problems of meeting its debt repayments were further aggravated by the fall in sterling against the dollar which has pushed up the sterling value of loans.

The talks to hammer out agreement among the banks ranged over selling off aircraft, injecting more capital into Laker (which has only £5m or so of equity capital and about £18m of reserves) which would mean a reduction in Sir Freddie's 90 per cent shareholding, and beefing up the board with new directors. However the sticking point was the risk the three banks were prepared to accept.

The members of the Midland syndicate had some protection. Airbus Industrie carries the first 25 per cent of any losses on its loans. But the Austrian and German banks felt that the risks were too great for them to continue bearing the other 75 per cent and wanted their exposure reduced.

It was against this background that the Bank of England assumed a more prominent role and the focus of negotiation shifted from the Midland syndicate to intensive talks with Sir Freddie and his merchant bank Samuel Montagu and with Midland Bank to try to find a way out of the impasse.

The negotiations have included the Department of Trade and the two aircraft manufacturers Airbus Industrie and McDonnell Douglas who may prove to be crucial in any solution.

Rescheduling debt repayments would ease pressure on Laker's cash flow but may not be enough to ensure viability when the airline is in such difficulties.

Some change in the terms on which Laker acquired its DC10s from McDonnell Douglas and A-300s from Airbus Industrie may be one solution. This could perhaps involve the aircraft manufacturers sharing a greater part of the risk or even making some more direct contribution to help Laker out.

Time is running out and the only other solution to Laker's problems would seem to be a request for aid or a loan guarantee from the Government. This possibility has been discussed but no formal request has been made. It is certainly hard to imagine the Prime Minister Mrs Thatcher looking kindly on the idea of bailing out one of the models of free enterprise.

Peter Wilson-Smith

Melvyn Westlake

Latin America — a monetarist test-bed

It is not only in Britain that monetarist economic policies stand at the crossroads. In Latin America, where several military governments have used such policies to impose stability and discipline in their countries — sometimes with great severity — monetarism is facing its most serious test. Argentina, Uruguay and Chile all face mounting economic problems.

What happens in these countries could have enormous implications for much of the rest of the Third World, where several governments are flirting with monetarism.

For Latin America, an area of deep idealogical divisions, monetarism has become another battleground in the struggle between the political left and right.

Chile, in particular, is seen by both sides as a "laboratory" for a monetarist experiment of a most rigorous kind. The outcome could be significant for industrialized countries as well as developing ones — a point that is not lost on the supporters and critics of monetarism in Europe and the United States.

In its modern form, monetarism was introduced into Latin America before either Britain or the United States adopted such policies. It formed part of the economic stabilization programme carried out in Brazil between 1964-68 following the military takeover. But the country's tough free-market approach was progressively watered down after 1968.

In Uruguay, monetarist policies were adopted after the so-called "soft coup" in 1973 when the military greatly intensified their grip over the country, without, at that stage, totally taking over the Government.

It was also in that year that General Augusto Pinochet led the military coup in Chile that toppled the democratically-elected Government of Dr Salvador Allende. General Pinochet's regime subsequently imposed — during 1975-76 — a drastic austerity programme which resulted in the worst depression experienced in that country since the 1930s.

The military men who came to power in Argentina in 1976 similarly resorted to monetarist and free-market policies.

In each case, monetarism has been part of a wider "reform" aimed (if not always successfully) at restructuring the economy along classical liberal lines.

Usually, prices and interest rates have been de-regulated, public spending cut back, welfare subsidies removed, export taxes and import tariffs reduced or eliminated, and state industries sold off to private enterprise. And all this has been accompanied by tough monetary control and a credit squeeze, together with repressive measures against organized labour and left-wing opposition.

Today, Uruguay, Argentina and Chile are all in recession. In Uruguay, unemployment and inflation are both rising, and the country's foreign debt is increasing rapidly.

The situation in Argentina is much worse than in the other two countries. Unemployment is 20 per cent and prices are rising faster than almost anywhere else in the world, running close to 150 per cent.

In March, Argentina was finally compelled to change tack and jettison some of its previous policies.

Even in Chile, which has applied the monetarist doctrines with an exemplary zeal, the strains are now clearly evident. The largest fruit exporting company and a big sugar refining company have both recently gone bankrupt. And, the Government has also had to take control of a number of Chilean banks.

"Chilean monetarism is probably entering its crisis", according to David Felix, Professor of Economics at Washington University, St Louis, and author of one of several papers on monetarism and the Third World, which appear in the latest issue of *Bulletin*, published today by the Institute of Development Studies, Sussex University.

Apart from the fervour of its monetarism, the Chilean situation is distinguished by the emergence of the so-called "Chicago Boys" — a group of economists trained at the University of Chicago — the spiritual home of modern monetarism.

Those who approve what the Chicago Boys are doing emphasize the recent high growth rates, the decline in inflation, the expansion of non-traditional exports like forestry products, the increase in foreign exchange reserves, the fall in state spending and the balanced budget.

Critics, on the other hand, point to the high rates of unemployment, the worsening distribution of income and wealth, the rise in foreign debt and the lack of business investment, as well as the suppression of democracy and the Government's systematic use of political violence to achieve its ends. There was certainly a marked improvement in some aspects of the economy during the second half of the 1970s.

The ferocious stabilization programme of 1975-76 did succeed in getting inflation down from the level of over 500 per cent, which followed the loss of control over prices during the later part of the Allende period. In 1980, inflation was down to 30 per cent, and in the first three quarters of 1981 was running at less than half that rate.

The extent of the squeeze can be judged from the fact that the budget deficit was reduced nearly 24 per cent of gross domestic product under Allende to little more than 1 per cent in 1978; and real interest rates (after allowing for inflation) did not go below 40 per cent for several years.

But this stabilization programme had enormous costs. "Open" unemployment soared to 20 per cent in Santiago, and poverty and hunger increased dramatically. The level of jobless is now said officially to be back down to around 11 per cent — compared with 4 per cent in 1971 and 1972 — although this is claimed by some critics to be a gross underestimate.

The savage deflation gave way to several years of rapid economic growth, which the World Bank was moved to describe as a "remarkable turnaround". Indeed, between 1977 and 1979, the economy grew in real terms by more than 8 per cent a year, although to some extent this simply reflected a rebound after the 11 per cent slump in 1975 (made worse by falling copper prices and the oil price increase). By 1980 the growth rate had slowed to 6½ per cent, and this year is likely to be below 4 per cent.

The negative side of the balance sheet is increasingly apparent. The foreign trade deficit is deteriorating rapidly. In the first nine months of 1981, the deficit reached $2,200m, or about four times the deficit in the same period of 1980. Imports were up 28 per cent and exports down 14 per cent. The import liberalization, which brought tariffs tumbling down from around 100 per cent to approaching 10 per cent, has led to a big jump in imports of luxury consumer durables.

The trade position has also been made worse by the over-valuation of the Chilean peso against other currencies. The exchange rate is being deliberately kept high in order to help bring inflation down, and the foreign deficit financed by large inflows of short-term speculative money, attracted by the high interest rates. This has greatly added to Chile's short-term foreign debts, while interest charges and repayments have placed an increasing burden on the balance of payments.

Equally disturbing, in the view of some observers, the high domestic interest rates and cheap imports have discouraged business investment, both from abroad and at home. Although such investment is the seed-corn of future economic growth, it remains substantially below the level of the 1960s.

But perhaps the most damaging indictment of Chilean monetarism is the apparent marked increase in income inequality — although the figures are hotly disputed.

In spite of the turmoil of the Allende years, the disparity in living standards between rich and poor were probably reduced. Even the official statistics suggest that wages and salaries now account for only 41 per cent of national income, compared with 62.8 per cent in 1972 and 52 per cent in 1970.

The unemployed have suffered particularly badly.

Simultaneously, wealth has become still more concentrated in a few hands. But with the demise of the Somoza regime in Nicaragua, Chile probably has the greatest concentration of wealth in Latin America, according to Professor Felix. Five economic groups, known as the "piranhas" are estimated, by the author of another paper in *IDS Bulletin*, to own 53 per cent of the assets of the top 250 private companies in Chile. This situation was made worse by the wholesale dismemberment of the state enterprise sector, and the sale of the assets to private companies at heavily undervalued prices.

Even the World Bank — otherwise approving of economic policy in Chile — expressed concern about the trend of income distribution and asset ownership. Chile, along with Argentina and Britain, has been in relative economic decline for several decades, and has grasped at even more desperate remedies. There are few signs that the latest of them will succeed where others have failed.

Business Diary: Live wires and ocean waves

For a moment yesterday I thought Business Diary was to go out on a high note this year by throwing some fresh light on the mystery of the Loch Ness monster. But was not to be.

Peter Young and Norman Bellamy showed me a photograph of this serpent-like thingie with bumps on bobbing about in the loch. Nessie to the life, I thought, but it turns out to have been there for less than five years, and Nessie has been around for a lot longer than that.

The picture they showed me was in fact of something man-made: it is called SEA-Clam, and it is a wave-energy device by which electricity is generated by the action of the sea on flexible airbags attached to turbines inside a long floating concrete spine.

SEA Clam was tested on Loch Ness, having been developed by a team under Bellamy, who is the head of electical and electronic engineering at Lanchester Poly, high and dry in Coventry.

Bellamy and SEA Clam has the backing of the Department of Energy and of Sea Energy Associates, a consortium of which Young, a director of RMC, is chairman.

Young says that one floating power station of SEA Clams could produce about a fifth of Britain's electricity needs more cheaply than oil and about the same as coal if still more expensively than by nuclear power.

Bellamy, no relation of the other Bellamy boffin, David, the one that wears those awful shorts, says: "We British have the best waves in terms of energy density in the whole world".

This is a sentiment with which many Britons might concur, notably those still mopping up at Wick St Lawrence in Avon, who until last weekend's storms thought the Bristol Channel was three quarters of a mile away.

However, it is not to the West Country but to the Western Isles that Young and Bellamy are looking. Here the waves have a clear run across the Atlantic all the way from the West Indies to the Outer Hebrides. Sea Energy Associates is itching to string an 80-mile stretch of supertanker length Nessies about ten miles out, both as a working power station and as a showcase for export sales.

Technical hitch

The Accounting Standards Committee, the profession's technical rule-making body, has got a new chairman at last.

The new man is Ian Davison, managing partner of top accountants Arthur Andersen, who is also being spoken of as the man who will conduct the forthcoming government review of the future of British Rail, but yesterday Davison told Business Diary that such notions are "pure speculation".

Davison, not one of the faceless breed of accountants, made his name taking Arthur Andersen from relative obscurity among British accounting firms to one of the big eight in fifteen years.

He has also found time for extra-curricular activities such as chairing two of Granada TV's *State of the nation* programmes and acting as Department of Trade inspector into the cases of Gray's Building Society and John Stonehouse's London Capital Securities.

Davison says he will take up the post officially on July 1 when the present chairman, Tom Watts of Price Waterhouse, stands down, but plans no quick radical changes.

"I'll be joining the committee as an ordinary member shortly to find out how things stand", he said.

The ACS job is not exactly sought after as it involves more public exposure and professional controversy than most accountants have a taste for. Sir Douglas Morpeth of Touche, Ross was to have succeeded Tom Watts in this job but backed down at the last minute in August.



Standards bearer: Ian Hay Davison, the new chairman of the Accounting Standards Committee, yesterday.

After Frodsham

Britain's engineering employers have at last found themselves a new leader Dr James McFarlane Frodsham, director general of the Engineering Employers' Federation (EEF) for ther last seven years. He steps down in February.

McFarlane, aged 56, will take over at the EEF at a time when the vital engineering sector is undergoing major structural change and facing serious internal argument over the future validity of national collective pay bargaining.

As a main board director of GKN, Britain's largest engineering group, McFarlane should have sufficient experience to understand the problems of the EEF's 6,000 menber companies, many in dire trouble these days, and weld them into united front against the engineering unions and the government. McDarlane's first round of national pay talks starts next autumn.

McFarlane has an impressive management record at GKN and has served is apprenticeship on many EEF committees. He joined GKN in 1969 after working for ICI and International Nickel and in 1977 became GKN's group general manager for personnel.

The EEF's recruitment expert, the London-based Wysock-Wright company, has had to work hard to find a successor to Frodsham for the post, reputed to carry a salary of close to £40,000 a year. At least one preferred candidate backed down.

With McFarlane, the EEF seems to have decided to play safe and selected a man who, while not well known outside the federation, has a roven record as an engineering and committee man.

Continental drift

Cox & Kings, which claims to be Britain's oldest travel agency launched its France and Portugal summer catalogue in London yeserday, but now as ever it was hard not to talk about India.

The origins of the firm go back to 1758 (and India) and one Thomas Cox, who was agent for the British Army there, predating Thomas Cook by about a century.

Cox & Kings no longer assists well-bred girls to get themselves and their trousseaus from Albion to the Sub-Continent and its eligible empire-builders. Today it's sights and smells rather than spouses that are the attraction in package tours

But, says chairman Anthony Good, Cox & Kings is still the biggest British agency in Indian holiday travel.

No wonder the tax avoidance industry is on the rocks. After my report yesterday on the falling of the judicial axe on the Rossminster "non-deposit" tax avoidance scheme, I received a call from a City tax consultant asking me to explain how the scheme worked. Is this why people in this office keep telling me I'm in the wrong business?

Ross Davies



Stock Exchange Prices

Equities mark time

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Dec 7. Dealings End, Dec 22. § Contango Day, Dec 23. Settlement Day, Jan 4.
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

1980/81 High	Low	Stock			Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
SHORTS								
99¾	81⅞	Treas	3%	1982	98¾	+1/32	3.067	14.479
102¾	90⅞	Treas	14%	1982	99 11/16	..	14.044	15.034
96⅞	85⅝	Treas	8¼%	1982	96⅝	•+⅛	8.538	15.044
98⅛	85¾	Exch	9¼%	1982	95¾	+⅛	9.661	15.297
95⅛	84⅛	Exch	8¼%	1983	94⅛	•+⅛	9.260	14.602
92	76½	Exch	3%	1983	90½	..	3.319	11.961
99 7/16	85¾	Treas	12%	1983	96⅛	..	12.451	15.304
94⅝	84⅛	Treas	9½%	1983	93¼	• ..	9.938	14.308
102¾	94¼	Exch	13½%	1983	97½	..	13.846	15.037
94 1/16	84⅛	Exch	10%	1983	92½	..	10.811	14.485
88	76⅜	Fund	5½%	1982-84	87¼	• ..	6.314	12.740
97 7/16	86⅝	Exch	11¼%	1984	92½	−¼	12.162	15.394
104 1/16	94½	Exch	14%	1984	97¼	−¼	14.395	15.407
82⅞	68¼	Exch	3%	1984	80⅝	•+⅛	3.721	12.204
99⅝	88	Treas	12%	1984	92¼	−¼	13.027	15.582
100¼	95¾	Treas	15%	1985	97⅞	−¼	15.366	15.939
98⅞	88⅛	Exch Cv	12%	1985	90⅛	−¼	13.314	16.001
76	68 15/16	Treas	3%	1985	73	+⅛	4.109	13.017
96 1/16	85⅝	Treas	11½%	1985	88¼	•−¼	13.030	15.969
103¼	87¼	Exch	12¼%	1985	89¼	−¼	13.628	15.803
97¼	84⅞	Exch	11¾%	1986	86⅞	−¼	13.526	16.157
69 13/16	65¾	Treas	3%	1986	69¼	+⅛	4.364	12.392
87⅞	84⅝	Treas	12%	1986	87⅞	−¼	13.697	15.892
MEDIUMS								
89⅞	78⅛	Treas	8½%	1984-86	81	•−¼	10.494	14.334
105⅞	90⅝	Exch	13¼%	1987	90⅞	•−⅛	14.374	15.551
81⅛	70¼	Fund	6½%	1985-87	74⅛	−⅛	8.850	13.642
99⅛	81½	Treas	12%	1987	86	−⅛	14.181	16.165
83	71⅞	Treas	7¾%	1985-88	76⅝	−⅛	10.568	14.453
65⅛	54⅞	Trans	3%	1978-88	60½	•−⅛	4.949	11.619
98	79½	Treas	11½%	1989	83⅝	−⅛	14.357	16.318
68¼	57⅛	Treas	5%	1986-89	63	−⅛	8.047	12.797
104¼	86¾	Treas	13%	1990	86¾	•−⅛	14.895	15.884
95⅞	81½	Exch	12½%	1990	85⅞	−⅛	15.072	16.336
82	69½	Treas	8¼%	1987-90	70⅝	−⅛	11.687	14.354
96¼	77⅞	Treas	11¾%	1991	78⅝	•−⅛	14.846	16.236
68	57	Fund	5¾%	1987-91	60	−⅛	9.771	13.709
92⅝	72¾	Exch	11%	1991	76⅝	−⅛	14.613	16.075
103⅛	82⅞	Treas	12¾%	1992	82⅞	•−⅛	15.246	16.102
86⅛	70⅛	Treas	10%	1992	74⅝	−⅛	14.068	15.766
100½	79	Exch	12¼%	1992	83⅞	−⅛	15.303	16.220
104¼	84¼	Exch	13½%	1992	89⅛	−⅛	15.708	16.308

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) December 17	Market rates (close) December 17	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.8840-8970	$1.8860-8880	0.38-0.28c prem	0.94-0.84c prem
Montreal	$2.2400-2600	$2.435-2.465	0.15-0.25c disc	0.55-0.75c disc
Amsterdam	4.68-72fl	4.69¾-70¾fl	1⅞-1¼c prem	4⅞-4⅜c disc
Brussels	72.00-75f	72.40-55f	145-245c disc	165-315c disc
Copenhagen	13.91-97k	13.92-94k	295-205ore prem	625-490ore prem
Dublin	1.2030-2110p	1.2045-65p	25-40p disc	85-105p disc
Frankfurt	4.28-32m	4.29-30m	1⅝-1¼pf prem	4⅝-4¼pf prem
Lisbon	123.00-124.50e	123.15-35e	30-190c disc	65-330c disc
Madrid	183.60-185.00p	183.80-184.00p	20-45c disc	60-105c disc
Milan	2286-2302lr	2288-90lr	12½-15½lr disc	43-47lr disc
Oslo	10.93-11.01k	10.96-98k	160-335ore disc	205-30ore prem
Paris	10.83-94f	10.85-86f	⅝-1¼c disc	5½-6¼c disc
Stockholm	10.48-56k	10.51-52k	210-140ore prem	680-610ore prem
Tokyo	410-15y	411½-12½y	3.00-2.70y prem	8.70-8.35y prem
Vienna	30.00-27sch	30.05-10sch	16-12gro prem	44-34gro prem
Zurich	*3.43-47f*	*3.43¾-44¾f*	*1½-1c prem*	*4⅞-4⅛c prem*

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was down 0.1 at 90.1.

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 14½%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 14¼ Low 12½

Week Fixed: 14½

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	14 11/32	2 months	14 5/16
3 months	14½	3 months	14⅛

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	14 17/32-14 15/32	1 month	15½
2 months	14 17/32-14 15/32	2 months	15¼
3 months	14 17/32-14 15/32	3 months	15¼
6 months	14¼-14 5/16	6 months	14⅞

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	15⅞-15⅝	7 months	15⅝-15¼
2 months	15¾-15½	8 months	15⅝-15¼
3 months	15¾-15½	9 months	15½-15⅛
4 months	15⅝-15⅜	10 months	15½-15¼
5 months	15½-15¼	11 months	15½-15¼
6 months	15⅝-15⅜	12 months	15⅝-15⅜

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	15 5/16-15 3/16	6 months	15 5/16-15 3/16
3 months	15⅜-15¼	12 months	15¼-15

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	15	3 months	15 7/16
7 days	15⅛	6 months	15 5/16
1 month	15 5/16	1 year	15¼

Interbank Market (%)
Overnight: Open 15-14¼ Close 8

1 week	15-14¾	6 months	15½-15⅜
1 month	15 9/16-15 7/16	9 months	15 9/16-15 7/16
3 months	15½-15⅜	12 months	15¼-15⅛

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 15⅝ 6 months 15⅝

Finance House Base Rate 16%

Other Markets

Australia	1.6080-1.6819
Bahrain	0.7115-0.7145
Finland	8.2890-8.3290
Greece	107.75-109.95
Hongkong	10.6885-10.7385
Iran	not available
Kuwait	0.5305-0.5335
Malaysia	4.2445-4.2745
Mexico	48.40-49.90
New Zealand	2.2780-2.2680
Saudi Arabia	6.4530-6.4830
Singapore	3.8785-3.8965
South Africa	1.8315-1.8465

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.5640-1.5670
† Canada	1.1898-1.1902
Netherlands	2.4850-2.4900
Belgium	38.35-38.45
Denmark	7.3600-7.3700
West Germany	2.2750-2.2765
Portugal	65.25-65.65
Spain	97.60-97.70
Italy	1212.75-1213.15
Norway	5.8075-5.8175
France	5.7575-5.7575
Sweden	5.5680-5.5730
Japan	218.10-218.30
Austria	15.92-15.95
Switzerland	1.8220-1.8250

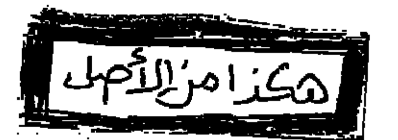
* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8403-0.8406

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 11¼-12¼; seven days, 12¼-12⅞; one month, 12⅞-13; three months, 13 7/32-13 7/16; six months, 14 1/16-14 5/16.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $418.50 (an ounce); pm, $416.25 close, $416.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $428-430 (£227-228).
Sovereigns (new): $102-103 (£54-54.50).



FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Bids make most of the running

As dealers became more involved in the traditional round of cocktail and office parties yesterday it was again left to bid situations to make the running.

Prominent among these was the dawn raid by brokers Stenberg, Thomas Clarke, on behalf of an unnamed investment client, who bid 125p for 2m shares in Henleys, the motor dealer. Unfortunately, with two large buyers active in the market on Wednesday Sternberg appear to have fallen well short of the target with around only 500,000 shares picked up — half of which were sold by British Car Auction.

Earlier shares of this account stood at 69p before racing ahead yesterday to 96p. An inquiry is expected to be called into all previous dealings.

The rest of the equity market appeared to be making slow progress with turnover described as minimal. The FT Index closed 1.9 down at 518.7 having opened the day 0.2 down at 10am.

The gilt edged market appeared short of inspiration with sterling lower, the US bond market easier, and a dull set of money supply figures.

Prices drifted throughout the day on lack of interest with the final picture showing falls of a £¼ in longs and £⅛ in shorts.

Jessel Toynbee closed unchanged at 62p after the Kuwait Investment Office had announced it had bought 1.02m shares, or 7.74 per cent of the company, at market levels.

Capital & Counties jumped 9p to 115p on the news that the Union Corporation of South Africa was selling its 32 per cent stake to one of South Africa's biggest insurance groups, Liberty Life, for £26m.

Burmah Oil has been the target of some solid support recently, reflecting the wave of optimism surrounding the development of its automotive division. After recommendations by several leading brokers, including Hoare Govett, it was the turn yesterday of brokers Scrimgeour Kemp-Gee who had them in for lunch. The price closed 3p higher at 127p.

Thomas Tilling rose 3p to 147p after hearing the news that the board of Berec had agreed to the latest offer from Hanson Trust of 150p a share. Hanson holds 26 per cent of Berec.

Half-year figures from Distillers proved to be at the lower end of expectations and the subsequent warning on trading knocked the shares 14p to 165p. There have been rumours that the group has recently bought a stake in Bank of Scotland, which incidentally holds 25 per cent of Henlys. But the group is reckoned to have bought the stake, totalling less then 5 per cent, as far back as June.

Better-than-expected trading news boosted Suyltone 8p to 168p and English China Clays 8p to 159p, while Whessoe celebrated a return to profits and its first final dividend since 1979 with a rise of 6p to 148p.

Equity turnover on December 16 was £107.434m (10, 404 bargains).

Word is that Reynold Diversified, the Australian Oil & Gas exploration group, is about to receive a cash injection for the development of several of its oil exploration projects in the United States and Middle East. The shares, a favourite with small investors, and traded under rule 163(E) yesterday touched 3p before closing at 2¼p.

Traded options: Total contracts amounted to only 590, with Imperial Group prominent on 139.

Traditional options saw calls on declaration day in LOF on 7p, P & O on 13p, Town & City on 3p Nimslow on 27p.

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
A E (F)	441.1(441.7)	1(7.8)	1.4a(4.9)	1.4(1.37)	1/3	1.4(3)
Benlox (I)	0.47(0.36)	0.03(0.02)	0.41(0.68)	—(—)	—	
Bisichi Tin (I)	—(—)	0.12(0.36)	1.05(2.76)	—(—)	—	—(0.65)
British Steam (I)	24.08(23.59)	0.95(1.36)	—(—)	2(2)	16/1	—(5.25)
J. E. Dennis (I)	2.23(2.24)	0.18a(0.009)	7.32a(0.26)	—(—)	—	—(1.4)
Distillers (I)	463.6(437.5)	66(77.8)	12.2(14.8)	3(3)	26/2	—(10.75)
English China (F)	334.9(332.4)	41.6(40.5)	17.22(18)	4.5(3.5)	7/4	7.2(6)
G. H. Firth (I)	1.46(1.44)	0.03(0.05)	0.8(2.2)	1.5(1.5)	—	—(3.0)
Geevor Tin (I)	2.79(2.35)	0.017a(0.14a)	0.56a(4.9a)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Arthur Lee (F)	50.2(68.8)	3.1a(0.09a)	5.04(0.83)	0.44(—)	26/2	0.44(0.44)
Marston, Thompson (I)	19.7(16.4)	3.24(2.6)	3.53(3.08)	0.7(0.62)	—	—(1.8)
Minet (9 mths)	33.4(25.65)	10.57(5.19)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(4.55)
Notts. Brick (F)	4.19(4.57)	0.29(0.06)	13.8(22.1)	4.6(4.6)	19/2	6.6(6.6)
Paterson Jenks (I)	12.7(8.89)	0.64(0.13)	3.4(0.76)	0.6(0.5b)	—	—(1.87b)
Plysu (I)	9.23(9.14)	1.04(0.68)	5.1(4.7b)	0.75(0.6b)	4/2	—(1.8b)
Redman Heenan (F)	31.8(42.1)	2.02a(2.84)	12.9a(14.3)	2(2)	—	4.2(4.2)
Sidlaw (F)	31.3(34.1)	2.09(0.13a)	36.3(2.25a)	7.5(1.5)	16/2	10(3.0)
Sonic Sound (F)	4.72(2.6)	0.8(0.3)	11.6(5.07)	2.24(—)	—	4.48(—)
Syltone (I)	7.96(8.52)	0.68(0.31)	—(—)	3.61(1.8)	9/2	—(9.0)
Trafford Carpets (I)	1.32(1.36)	0.043(0.1a)	3.0(7.6a)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Trustees Corp (I)	—(—)	2.17(2.15)	—(—)	1.1(1.1)	2/2	—(2.95)
Unigate (I)	710(671)	20.1(14.5)	7.0(5.2)	2.5(2.2)	1/4	—(6.2)
Vaux Breweries (F)	86(72.85)	9.48(8.7)	13.7(12.7)	5(4.62)	12/2	7.5(6.83)
Whessoe (F)	97.1(73.5)	4.58(0.41a)	51.8(5.8a)	5(—)	30/1	8(—)
Wolves Laundry (I)	0.46(0.46)	0.03(0.13a)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(0.75)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. a=Loss. b=Adjusted.

One-for-one scrip issue at Whessoe

By Our Financial Staff

Whessoe, the Darlington-based engineering group, fulfilled its halftime recovery forecast yesterday when it announced a return to profitability for the year to September.

Pretax profits were £4.6m against a loss of £412,000, on sales almost a third higher at £73.6m.

The group is declaring a final dividend for the first time since 1979. The payout for the year totals 11.46p. It is also making a one-for-one scrip issue.

Lord Erroll of Hale, the chairman, yesterday attributed the improvement to a return to profit at Whessoe Engineering after heavy losses last year.

At the trading level, heavy engineering contributed £5m to group earnings, against £2m a year earlier.

Light engineering increased its contribution from £733,000 to £1.2m. Good profits from the British and Australian subsidiaries of the third division, Aiton, were offset by losses in Canada, still suffering from contract losses last year.

Lord Erroll says that cash flow was strongly positive during the year and that net borrowings were sharply reduced. Interest charges fell from £1.6m to £680,000.

The figures also include an extraordinary item of £2.6m for a release of deferred tax. The net profit was £7.3m against 1980's loss of £96,000.

AE profits collapse to £1m

By Paul Maidment

Despite a second half return to profitability on the back of a £17m rationalization plan, AE, the precision engineering group, announced yesterday a collapse in full-year pretax profits to £1m from £7.8m the previous year.

The decline reflected continuing low demand for replacement components in the United Kingdom, reduced demand for new components for vehicle production in Europe, tighter export margins and redundancy payments.

Sales in the 12 months to September 30 were little changed from a year earlier at £441.1m. Mr John Collyear, the managing director, said that adjusting for the disposal of the group's heat transfer division in August, there was an underlying increase in sales of 4 per cent.

He pointed to higher second half sales and pretax profits as against the previous second half as an early indication of the benefits of the two year-rationalization plan, which cost £9.2m during the year. He said the full benefits should show through in 1982.

Mr Collyer said that profit brfore interest of the group's manufacturing companies increased, while that of the overseas companies fell.

Mr Collyear says the group's gearing has been reduced from 62 per cent to 50 per cent.

Having omitted a half time dividend, the group is declaing a final dividend of 2p gross against 4.2p for the previous year. The shares gained 6p to 44p.

UK milk side boosts first half results at Unigate

By Drew Johnston

Unigate the milk and meat producer, has staged a substantial recovery for the half-year to September 30, with pretax profits up 38 per cent to £20.1m and turnover up 6 per cent at £710m.

Mr John Clement, the chairman, said the improvement was based on extensive efficiencies made throughout the group and price increases in January.

The most dramatic improvement came from UK milk products which almost doubled their profitability from £8m to £15.9m. Industrial services, which include North Sea oil interests, jumped from £1m to £2.8m, though a £1.3m loss was made on meat products, down against a profit of £2.8m.

Mr Clement said these losses would have been worse if Scot Meat had not been sold, but the company was continuing to support its remaining meat interests in the belief that it could overcome the present weakness of the market.

The recently acquired subsidiaries inthe food division, Clipper Seafoods and Tuners Turkeys, had broadened the base of operations and both were performing satisfactorily, he added.

Further food diversification took place in October when the group bought Casa Bonita, an American restaurant chain.

The half-year dividend gross, has been increased from 3.15p to 3.57p. Earnings per share were also up from 5.2p per ordinary shre to 7p.

Arthur Lee improves in second half

The pretax loss of Arthur Lee and Sons jumped from £93,000 to £3.18m in the year to September 30 last. However, this result is a big improvement on the rate of losses — £2.65m pretax — sustained in the first half-year. And, with a tax credit of £5m, against £113,000 last time, Lee has a net profit of £1.82m, compared with just £20,000.

Turnover for the year dropped from £68.8m to £50.2m. The group's overdraft has been cut from £4.6m to £2.7m. Lee is now trading profitably and the total dividend is being maintained at 0.62p gross a share.

Siebe Gorman

Siebe Gorman Holdings has acquired Rieth and Co of Kirchheim, near Stuttgart, for DM9m (about £2.1m) cash.

Rieth designs, makes and supplies metal parts for the power generating industry in Europe and the Middle East. Through a subsidiary in Vienna products are also supplied and installed in Austria.

Vaux record

In spite of tough conditions, Vaux Breweries managed to achieve its thirteenth successive increase in pretax profits in the 53 weeks to October 3 with a 9 per cent rise to £9.48m.

Charles Hill

Charles Hill of Bristol has exchanged conditional contracts for the acquisition of Octavius Hunt from its private shareholders for £650,000 cash with more payable over the next two years depending on profit levels. The acquisition is conditional on the approval of the ordinary shareholders.

Hunt makes smoke pesticides, industrial matches and sparklers and has recently acquired a distributor of telecommunications equipment. The accounts show pretax profits for the six months to September 30 of £104,000 and net assets at that date of £345,000.

CAPITAL SPENDING

Department of Industry figures for the fixed capital expenditure of manufacturing, distributing and service for the increase in the value of stocks, all seasonally adjusted at 1975 prices.

	£m Investment Total	£m Investment Mfg	£m Change in Stocks
1978	9,002	3,759	641
1979	9,973	3,959	742
1980	10,217	3,577	−1,881
1979 Q1	2,389	990	122
Q2	2,545	988	258
Q3	2,503	887	215
Q4	2,536	1,004	148
1980 Q1	2,562	959	−433
Q2	2,547	918	−219
Q3	2,529	898	−393
Q4	2,579	808	−836
1981 Q1	2,418	781	−407
Q2	2,454	761	−556
Q3	2,446	717	−97

Wall St

New York, Dec 17. — Stocks closed slightly higher as investors continued to exhibit concern about the deteriorating economy and the worsening crisis in Poland.

The Dow Jones industrial average was slightly lower most of the day but gained strength near the close and finished up by 1.81 points at 870.53. Advances just led declines by about 730 to 720, and volume rose to 47 million shares from 42.4 million yesterday.

Mr Michael Metz of Oppenheimer and Co said the market might be attempting to rally.

Commodities

COPPER was steady at the lower levels. — Afternoon. — Higher grade cash, £870-71; three months, £895-96.00. Sales: 7,200 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £866-68; three months, £890-92: Sales, 1,100 tonnes. Morning. — Higher grade cash, £875-76; three months, £901-901.50. Settlement, £876. Sales, 13,600 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £871.50-72.00; three months, £896-97. Settlement, £872. Sales: 700 tonnes.

TIN was steady. — Afternoon. — Standard cash, £8,350-51 a tonne; three months, £8,125-35. Sales, 1,000 tonnes. High grade, cash, £8,350-51; three months £8,125-35. Sales, Nil tonnes. Morning. — Standard cash, £8,350-55; three months, £8,125-30. Settlement, £8,355. Sales, 1,250 tonnes. High grade, cash, £8,350-55; three months, £8,125-30. Settlement, £8,355. Sales, nil tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works, $m35.08 a picul.

LEAD was steadier.—Afternoon.—Cash, £372-73 per tonne; three months, £386-87. Sales, 9000 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £368-68.50; three months, £382.90-83.00. Settlement, £368.50. Sales, 8,350 tonnes.

ZINC was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £453.50-54.00 per tonne; three months, £460.50-60.75. Sales, 4,150 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £453-53.50; three months, £459.50-60.00. Settlement, £453.50. Sales, 6,650 tonnes.

SILVER was steady.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot 465.95p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 882.50); three months, 482.70p (910c); six months, 501.75p (944.50c); one year, 534.95p (1,006.50c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 463.5-64.5p; three months, 480-81p. Sales, 47 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 466.5-67.5p; three months, 483-83.5p. Settlement, 467.5p. Sales, 91 lots.

ALUMINIUM was steady.—Afternoon.— Cash, £617-18 per tonne; three months, £640-41. Sales, 11,850 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £615.50-16.00; three months, £638.50-39.50. Settlement, £616. Sales, 9,400 tonnes.

NICKEL was firmer. — Afternoon. — Cash, £2,915-25 per tonne; three months, £2,950-65. Sales, 394 tonnes. Morning. — Cash, £2,895-2,900; three months, £2,935-40. Settlement, £2,900. Sales, 768 tonnes.

RUBBER (pence per kilo). — Jan. 51.00-51.20; Feb. 51.20-51.80; Jan-March, 51.20-51.30; April-June, 54.40-54.60; July-Sept, 57.50-57.70; Oct-Dec, 60.70-60.80; Jan-March, 63.90-64.00; April-June, 66.80-67.10; July-Sept, 69.80-70.00. Sales, 14 at five tonnes; 98 at 15 tonnes.

COFFEE.—ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne): Jan. 1,128-1,129; March, 1,116-1,117; May, 1,1097-1,099; July, 1,096-1,097; Sept, 1,095-1,098; Nov, 1,096-1,100; Jan, 1,095-1,100. Sales: 1,345 lots including 75 options.

COCOA (£ per metric ton).—Dec, 1,157-1,163 (1,167-1,158); March, 1,155-1,156 (1,156-1,161); May, 1,159-1,160 (1,165-1,154); July, 1,168-1,169 (1,172-1,165); Sept, 1,173-1,178 (1,177-1,172); Dec, 1,190-1,197 (1,195-1,190); March, 1,200-1,207. Sales: 1,582 lots. ICCO prices: daily (Dec 16) 95.58c; indicator price (Dec 17). 5-day average, 96.01c. (US cents per lb.).

SUGAR.—The London daily price of "raws" was £4 higher at £172; the "whites" price was £4 higher at £175. Futures (£ per tonne): Jan, 174-178; March, 179.75-179.90; May, 181.50-181.60; Aug, 184.15-184.25; Oct, 188.75-188.90; Jan, 188.50-191.20; March, 194-195. Sales, 7,223 lots. ISA prices (Dec 16): daily, 13.08c; 15-day average, 12.75c.

England's footballers put their trust in a Yorkshireman with no fancy London airs

The man who controls superstars

How on earth did Harry Swales ever do it? You may not have heard of him, unless you happen to be a sports editor of a national newspaper, or work in advertising, television or sponsoring, but what he does should impress you. Harold Swales, MBE, is the agent for England's World Cup football team.

He has kept a dull silhouette and those sports columnists who have had occasional digs at his expense have done so, to Mr Swales's great resentment, without ever having met him. They do not realize, so he says, what a terrific job he does.

He is difficult to meet, especially these days, ever since Paul Mariner, by great good fortune, stuck out a foot to a Trevor Brooking miskick and took England into the World Cup finals in Spain. Until that game against Hungary, all had appeared lost. From that moment, the world and his butler have been after Mr Swales.

For a start, he lives in the village of Collingham, near Wetherby in Yorkshire. Where, you say, asking your personal assistant and your marketing director to get out the gazetteer at once? In the world of agents, where the superstars of the sporting world are controlled from Mayfair or New York by organizations employing hundreds of expensive and beautiful people, Harry Swales is not just unusual but unique. He does it all on his own, from his Yorkshire home, with only his wife to help him answer the telephone.

We waited for an hour in the foyer at Grosvenor House Hotel in Park Lane in London where Mr Swales now stays on his regular but fleeting visits to the capital. We watched the mysterious Arabs and their unmysterious daughters, chewing gum through their veils and wearing training shoes. Oh, isn't that Jackie Stewart over there, friend of the Royals? Yes indeed. And that must be Kevin Keegan, wearing an evening suit, our first footballing millionaire.

Mr Swales is also Keegan's agent and he has worked hard to help him achieve household prominence. Keegan was using Harry's hotel room to change in, getting ready for another function. Top footballers spend a lot of time at functions, especially if they are looked after by Mr Swales.

He appeared looking neat and dapper with an RAF moustache which curled across his face, open and to the point, his Yorkshire accent and northern bluntness intact. He is 56 and comes from the village where he still lives. He left school in Leeds at 16 and in 1943 went into the Army, the Royal Horse Artillery, where he served as a driver for six years, in Europe and the Middle East.

He came out in 1947 and became a salesman for Warner Pathé films, working for them for 22 years, ending as assistant sales manager. It was a purely commercial job, selling films to distributors, but through it, he says, he drifted into the world of show business, meeting people in the theatre and then sporting personalities. He also did a lot of charity work for the Variety Club of Great Britain.

About thirteen years ago, he decided to set up on his own as a sports agent, having come to know Don Revie and the officials and players of his local club in Yorkshire, Leeds United. Football experts will remember that it was Leeds United who first glimpsed the money to be made out of football—off the pitch as well as on it. Remember all those new shirts that came out, new styles, new gimmicks. I still have a set of number tabs, which you put on your football socks, one of the few ideas not to be commercially successful. It was Harry Swales who did the deal with the Leicestershire firm, Admiral, which is now part of footballing history.

Swales also looked after the players' pool at Leeds. They won the FA Cup in 1972 and he organized their bits and pieces from advertising, photographs, appearances, signed articles and such like. He did such a good job for them that Liverpool asked him to help them; so did Celtic and then Southampton.

It was through Liverpool that he met Keegan. When Keegan moved to Hamburg in 1977, he left Swales virtually in charge of his British commitments. Harry decided this was the time to devote himself full-time to Keegan, which he did. In October, 1979, the English players approached him about their pool. Today, he looks after only England and Keegan.

Meeting Keegan was a stroke of luck for him, but the benefit was mutual. So many players, catapulted to success, can easily choose to listen to the wrong advice, swayed by metropolitan manners, expensive suits, knowing ways. Keegan is not just England's only recognized world class player, he happens to be an all round "superstar". perhaps the smartest, most energetic person to wear an England shirt.

Anybody who saw him arrive as a stranger in Germany, with no language, no connexions, and then dominate his world both on and off the pitch, can only admire him. He saw the benefit of putting his affairs in the hands of a one-man band, an upright Yorkshireman, with no fancy London airs and distracting graces.

Swales says his role with England is constantly being misunderstood, perhaps wilfully. "I am not involved *physically* in the lives of the England players, although I get accused of doing so. I would never interrupt their concentration on football. No one in their right mind would want to interfere with the England training schedules. I look after the use of their *image*. Perhaps, after a game is over, they might then be involved physically in some promotion."

Most football clubs have a pool, if they are at all successful. The FA Cup finalists, for example, will decide to pool all the revenue they can make from their Cup success, dividing it equally between the players, usually from 15 to 18, who are in the first team pool. If they look like doing well, they hand over all the paperwork and negotiations to one person, for a percentage of course.

The England pool is more complicated. Under Swales, it has developed into an ongoing situation, as of this moment in time. You get a point every time you are named in the England squad. At the end of each year, your points are added up—and under Ron Greenwood almost 30 different players have been called up in the last year—and the spoils are divided according to your points. So even if England had not got to Spain, or even when for months they play no matches, the pool still continues.

A commercial firm goes to Swales with an idea, and if they are told yes they pay their money. Oh no, he will not tell us how much. He's not daft.



Harry Swales : says his role is constantly misunderstood

Trebor, the mints and sweet people, is one of the companies which has official permission to use the England team image, and so has Lipton's. This might mean little more than a photograph of the lads, or it could be personal appearances at company activities.

The biggest current contract is with Courage, the brewers. "This is really a PR job. We don't endorse their products. We mainly turn up at receptions and meet their clients after an England game is over of course. About four times a year, they ran quiz nights, in a club or a factory. Courage invite their clients to put up a quiz team against the England players' quiz team. We never win, though Trevor Francis is exceptionally good, and so is Trevor Brooking.

"We also sign footballs for Courage, which they might give to their local landlords who raffle them, and the proceeds end up for charity. Whenever anyone approaches me for the use of the England team, I put it to a committee of four players—Kevin, Trevor Brooking, Ray Wilkins and Mick Mills. We discuss what would be involved. If we agree it is good for the image of the game, we submit it to the FA for their ratification. So far, everything has been ratified. I am very aware of the responsibility we have. It is important to accept only the right things. We wouldn't accept cigarette firms, for example, or heavy spirits."

What about Courage? Surely a beer firm is only a stage away from manufacturers of spirits?

"We do *not* advertise beer. We only do internal PR for them. You also forget that Courage is a huge firm. They have hotels and restaurants, as well as everything else. The players have appeared in a campaign for Don't Drink and Drive.

"You either reject or you accept sponsorship in sport. If you accept it, surely it is far better to control it than allow it to become cheap and nasty. We're a sort of policing body. Once we've agreed a contract, we still make sure everything is respectable. Every bit of art work comes to me. If I don't like it, we don't approve it.

"Without us, you would have pirate companies bringing the game into disrepute. As it is, so many people exploit the game without putting anything back. We have done a lot for charity ourselves. We bought six sunshine coaches for the Variety Club. They cost £6,000 each.

"I get upset when people attack what I do. I was *asked* by the players and the FA to help. People in Britain seem to get pleasure out of knocking anything that is successful. It's a marvellous country, with a marvellous way of life, yet people keep running it down.

"The World Cup is going to be a big occasion, so let's enjoy it, in a responsible manner. It will give a lot of employment to a lot of people. Look at the clothing industry. They've already had a big boost. It could be the Royal Wedding, all over again. Let's be happy about it, rejoice in the success, not be criticizing everything all the time."

Mr Swales received his MBE for his charity work for the Variety Club, not for services to football. You never know, that might come, now we're going to Spain. His heart must have leapt when he saw that Mariner goal go in. Go on, Harry, admit it.

"No, not for myself. I was pleased for the players. They have to put up with a lot of criticism. And for Ron Greenwood. He is such a gentleman. As for me, I see it as a challenge. I have been indeed very busy since then, but we are still willing to discuss projects with anyone. You can get me in Yorkshire. Thank you."

It's still not absoultely clear how he's managed it. His wife, Audrey, has one suggestion. When you hire Harry Swales, she says, you get Harry Swales, not one of Harry Swales's assistants. Well done, Harry.

Hunter Davies

Tennis

Where one hand is thought better than two

From John Ballantine
New Jersey, Dec 17

With three of the four players involved in the most crucial matches of the £132,000 Toyota Women's championships today, Chris Lloyd, Tracy Austin and Andrea Jaeger all favouring double-handed backhands it is curious indeed that many modern experts still consider this stroke is inferior to the traditional single-handed movement.

"I tried very hard to get Chris to change" recalls Jimmy Evert, the quiet coach from Fort Lauderdale who fathered, bred and burnished the most incredible tennis "machine" of all time. "Actually when she was about 14 she used to practice single handedly under my eye, but then I'd see her six courts off hammering away with two hands again. I definitely think that one hand is superior for it gives more reach, fluency and mobility than two hands, especially on fast surfaces like Wimbledon."

Evert believes that this is why his daughter has had greater difficulty winning on the centre court than elsewhere. "You only have to observe the quality of the net attack of say Evonne Cawley, Martina Navratilova or Hana Mandlikova to be sure that one hand is better," he concluded.

So should it be back to the old one-fisted backhand? Maybe for Wimbledon where Mrs Lloyd may well have won three times despite the logical disadvantage, but here on the green carpet of the Meadowlands Stadium, it seems no handicap at all.

Another frequent criticism is that the two-handed players find it difficult to pick up low, short balls and Pam Shriver attempted to exploit this in her fine first round match with Mrs Lloyd. On the other hand, two-handed players like these girls, Bjorn Borg and Jimmy Connors are wonderfully adept at controlling fast and low balls with this style.

Discussing this with an old timer here today he recalled one doubles match in the 40s when John Bromwich, the Australian, who was one of the first great players to use two hands, did not miss one service return on the backhand in five sets. His opponents were two of the strongest servers in the game, Jack Kramer and Bob Falkenburg.

Tanner the latest seed to lose in NSW Open

Sydney, Dec 17.—Chris Johnstone of West Australia continued the rout of seeded players in the New South Wales Open with a 6—3, 6—3 victory over Roscoe Tanner, the second seed. Only three seeds—Mark Edmondson (6), Chris Lewis (12) and Hank Pfister (13)—have survived to reach tomorrow's quarter-finals.

The fourth seed, Johan Kriek, of South Africa, his countryman Kevin Curren (15) and Schlomo Glickstein (10) of Israel, were also beaten and like Tanner now have time on their hands to practise for the Australian Open, beginning in Melbourne on December 26. Yannick Noah, the No 3 seed from France, lost too but will not take up a wild card entry into the Australian Open.

In the quarter-finals Phil Dent plays the 1978 Open winner, Tim Wilkison of the United States, Pfister meets his fellow American, Steve Denton. Lewis, of New Zealand, takes on John Alexander and Johnstone is paired with Edmondson. Johnstone gave Australia's Davis Cup captain, Neale Fraser, something to mull over with his biggest win to date over the big serving American, ranked eleventh in the world.

Johnstone, ranked 131, is enjoying a nine-match unbeaten run and last Sunday won the Queensland Open, beating Dent in the final. "It's been a slow process to realize that you are the equal, if not better, than your opponents," Johnstone said. "My mental attitude is better and I'm serving well. After winning nine matches on the trot I'm seeing the ball well and Roscoe helped me by not getting in too many of his first serves."

Tanner gained admiration for the gracious way he accepted defeat. "Chris played me right," he said. "He moved the ball around and made it show where I was tired. He knew my travel schedule and did things that were not going to make me play as well. He played me smart."

Tanner had to play two matches today to catch up on his late arrival yesterday after completing Davis Cup commitments for the United States against Argentina, in Cincinatti last weekend.

Alexander came through a tough assignment, beating Noah 6—3, 4—6, 7—6 in a second round match carried over from last night and an hour later disposing of Curren 7—5, 6—4. The Australian is getting into his stride after a lay off from a lingering back injury.



Alexander : came through tough assignment

Alexander, rater eighty-ninth in the world, takes on Lewis tomorrow and holds a favourable 2—1 head-to-head record. Lewis beat Lloyd Bourne of the United States, 6—3, 7—6.

Alexander, rated eighty-ninth in and doubles partner, Dent, reached the last eight with a 6—3, 6—7, 6—3 victory over England's Jonathan Smith, conqueror yesterday of Ilie Nastase.

Edmondson, looming as the favourite to take out the title, easily defeated Glickstein, 6—2, 6—4 and Pfister beat Kriek 6—4, 6—3. Henri Leconte the French junior, lost to Wilkison 6—4, 6—7, 6—4 and the wonderful run of Wally Masur came to an end when he lost 6—3, 6—4 to Denton.

MEN'S SINGLES: Second round: J Alexander (Australia) beat Y Noah (France) 6—3, 4—6, 7—6; R Tanner (US) beat A Jarryd (Sweden) 6—3, 6—0. Third round: C Lewis (NZ) beat L Bourne (US) 6—3, 7—6; J Alexander beat K Curren (SA) 7—5, 6—4; S Denton (US) beat W Masur (Australia) 6—3, 6—4; H Pfister (US) beat J Kriek (SA) 6—4, 6—3; M Edmondson (Australia) beat S Glickstein (Israel) 6—2, 6—4; C Johnstone (Australia) beat Tanner 6—3, 6—3; P Dent (Australia) beat J Smith (GB) 6—3, 6—7, 6—3; T Wilkison (US) beat H Leconte (France) 6—4, 6—7, 6—4. —AP.

Sweden sweep through to quarter-finals

Delray Beach, Florida, Dec 17.—The top five seeded teams, led by the defending champions, Sweden, are through to the quarter-finals of the Sunshine Cup boys' team tennis tournament.

Sweden, the top seeded country to retain the world's leading trophy for players of 18 and under, beat the Netherlands 3—0, while the British pair, David Shaw and David Felgate, were soundly beaten 3—0 by the third seeds, the United States.

RESULTS: Sweden 3, Netherlands 0; Italy 2, West Germany 1; United States 3, Britain 0 (M Kures beat D Shaw 6—2, 6-4; J Levine beat D Felgate 6—3, 6-1; doubles: Kures, Levine beat Shaw, Felgate, 6—1, 6—1); Spain 3, Israel 0 (singles); Canada 3, Romania 1; Mexico 2, Chile 1; Denmark 2, Switzerland 1; Brazil 2, Czechoslovakia 0 (singles). **QUARTER-FINAL:** Sweden v Canada; Italy v Brazil; United States v Mexico; Spain v Denmark.—Reuter.

US juniors make easy progress

Tarpon Springs, Florida, Dec 17.—The defending champions, United States, and China had easy victories against their opponents yesterday to reach the semi-final of the Maureen Connolly Brinker Continental Players Cup International team tennis tournament for junior girls.

Andrea Leand and Zina Garrison of the United States won their singles matches against Italy, who were seeded sixth. Miss Leand beat Wanita Nest 6—1, 6—2 and Miss Garrison, defeated Nicollette Virginnino 6—2, 6—1.

China defeated Yugoslavia 2—1, seeded fourth, on Wednesday, beat Britain 2—1 in the quarter-final. Earlier on Wednesday, Austria beat the third-seeds, Spain, 2—1, West Germany defeated the Netherlands 2—1 and Italy beat Canada, 2—0.

TORQUAY: South West Junior tournament: Boys: K Hodges beat N Beedham 6—4, 6—2; P Reekie beat R Jeffreys 6—4, 6—0; J Poxton beat D Ashworth 6—3, 6—4. Quarter-finals: B Mills beat K Hodges 6—3, 7—6; J Poxton beat K Treen 7—5, 6—3; M Collins beat P Reekie 6—2, 6—1; B Knapp beat D Ashworth 6—3, 3—6, 6—3. Girls: S Gomer beat A Jones 7—5, 1—5, 6—4; B Lockwood beat A Root 6—1, 4—6, 7—5. Quarter-finals: S Gomer beat C Gillies 6—1, 6—3; S Sullivan beat S Longbottom 6—2, 6—2; B Lockwood beat C Bann 6—1, 6—2; L Gracie beat S Nicholson 6—3, 6—2.

Football

Genuine supporters made to suffer for the acts of hooligans

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

Hooligans, the lepers within the modern game, have yet to be controlled, let alone cured. The power of the Football Association, the domestic ruling body, is as misdirected as that of the European counterparts. Last season UEFA closed Upton Park's doors for West Ham United's Cup Winners' Cup tie against Castilla after exaggerated crowd trouble in Madrid. The "silent night" cost West Ham about *£40,000.*

On Wednesday the FA banned Chelsea's away supporters for the rest of the season and ordered the club to pay £1,000 to each of the home clubs involved in their remaining fixtures. The ruling, after damage worth £2,500 had been caused at Derby County's ground, could have been less lenient. Sheffield Wednesday, for instance, were forced to pay £3,000 to four home clubs after *their supporters* rioted at Oldham last season.

The financial losses are meaningful only in that they exacerbate an already critical economic decline, *especially* in the case of Chelsea, who are awaiting official confirmation of the hearing. The banning of supporters is equally futile. Those who think that there will be none at Watford, Luton Town, Norwich City and Crystal Palace next year are merely deluding themselves. *Mercifully,* the *other seven* venues are distant enough to deter some, but probably not all, of the troublemakers.

Once again the problem has been tackled in the wrong way. The FA, who must be seen to be attempting to reduce violence particularly with the World Cup on the horizon, are not to blame. Although the penalties they can impose are limitless, all of them are aimed at collective bodies of club supporters. That is not where the root of the evil lies.

The behaviour of those travelling on special trains and holding official tickets is usually impeccable. They are, after all, genuine supporters. It is the irresponsible individuals beyond the control of clubs as well as the police, *parents and society as a whole,* who need to be weeded out and subsequently punished more harshly than they are at present.

A fine of £20, for example, for the Chelsea youth who threw a brick at a policeman is visibly lenient. Even £200 can be rapidly collected by his friends. Stiffer prison sentences is not only a negative solution but would also increase the overcrowding of institutions and introduce youngsters to perhaps even more dangerous criminal elements.

All of those arrested at the Baseball Ground last month *should have been forced either to* attend detention centres or preferably to do social work on every Saturday afternoon and relevant evenings during the week for at least the rest of the season, if not longer. The majority would then not suffer such rough justice and no one would be *inconvenienced except* the offenders themselves.

Chelsea's chairman and manager held several meetings with their young supporters to talk about crowd trouble, a laudable attempt, but sadly, as has been shown, ineffective. Unfortunately, those who attend such discussions are the ones who care. Those, who do not, seem to be devoid of thought. Is it not about time they were taught to think and think hard about the consequences of their *appalling anti*-social actions?

Managers of Ireland earn new contracts

As one Irish manager agreed to a new contract yesterday, another prepared to receive one. The signed contract is Billy Bingham's reward for taking Northern Ireland to the World Cup finals and the one probably awaiting Eion Hand's signature is obviously an acknowledgement of his feat in taking the Republic of Ireland so close to qualification for Spain.

Mr Bingham is happy with the terms of a three-year contract offered by the Irish Football Association. Cash details have not been disclosed, but agreement has been reached on what must be a five-figure sum.

"I've got a good contract and am satisfied," Mr Bingham said. "It didn't cost them the Bank of Monte Carlo, but it's a fair deal."

The first man chosen by Mr Bingham as he ponders the composition of a back-up squad for the finals is Bertie Peacock—like Mr Bingham, one of the heroes of Northern Ireland's last World Cup appearance in 1958. Mr Peacock, a publican in Coleraine has joined the party for Spain as an assessor of the opposition.

Martin Harvey, the former Sunderland half back, has been chosen as assistant manager. Mr Harvey is assistant to the Plymouth Argyle manager Bobby Moncur, who has already given his agreement, and the appointment is likely to be confirmed within the next few days. *Northern Ireland physiotherapists* in Spain will be Jimmy McGregor (Manchester United) and Derek McKinley (Portadown) with Jack Balmer, a leading consultant surgeon, as the team's medical adviser.

Mr Hand's contract with the Republic of Ireland is expected to *run until the European Champion*ship finals in 1984.

Weekend programme threatened again

Four of tonight's six league matches *have been called off* as snow and frost again threatened to disrupt the weekend football programme. Rotherham v Wrexham in the second division, Chester v Bristol City (third division) and the fourth division games between Tranmere Rovers and Peterborough United and Scunthorpe *United and Stockport County are* all postponed. Five Saturday matches have already been postponed and many more will probably follow. The victims so far are the games at Shrewsbury, Doncaster, Hereford, Wigan and York.

Birmingham City are to call in a referee this morning to make an early ruling on their pitch for tomorrow's first division game against Coventry City, but Jim Smith, Birmingham's manager, surveying the frozen, snow-covered surface, said: "I cannot see any hope of the game being played."

Manchester City's manager, John Bond, says that top clubs should have some form of under*soil heating to combat* cold weather. City's match against Sunderland at Maine Road tomorrow is almost certain to be played because the club has undersoil heating. "If we're going to have soccer in this country in December and January, then undersoil heating is a *must*".

Leeds United were hit by an outbreak of influenza among the first team squad yesterday and the Football League will decide today whether their match at Brighton tomorrow goes ahead. When the players reported for indoor training at Elland Road *yesterday, five first team players* were sent home by the club doctor. They were Lukic, Burns, Hart, Frank Gray, and Connor.

A Leeds spokesman *said*: "The League have been informed of the position and are going to give a decision tomorrow." Last month Leeds' home game with Manchester City was called off when several City players had flu.

☐ Aston Villa's manager Ron *Saunders has discouraged* any bids for his injured captain Dennis Mortimer. "He is not for sale" Mr Saunders said, reacting sharply to reports of Everton's interest in the England B midfield player.

☐ Barnet will keep home advantage for the FA Cup third round tie against Brighton on January 2. The Alliance Premier League side considered switching the match to Brighton because of the *extra gate money, but have* decided to stay at their Underhill ground. Police have set the crowd limit at 10,500 and the Barnet board meet tomorrow to decide whether to make the match all-ticket.

Yesterday's results

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Cup, third round: Worthing 5, Metropolitan Police 1.
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Crystal Palace 0, Reading 0.
RUGBY UNION: Tour Match: Birkenhead Park 13, Steaua Bucharest 11.

Futcher is suspended for two matches

Paul Futcher, the Oldham *Athletic defender, was suspended* for two matches when he appeared before an FA disciplinary commission in Manchester yesterday. Futcher was expecting stiffer punishment after reaching 20 penalty points. He said: "I am really delighted because the team have a great chance of promotion to the first division and I didn't want to miss too many games".

David Rusbury (Carlisle *United*) was *also banned for two* games. Both suspensions begin tomorrow.

Ken Price, the Gillingham *striker, has been cleared of* bringing the game into disrepute. Price was charged after an incident with Alan Moody in Gillingham's 3—0 defeat at Southend on November 2, but was found not guilty by a disciplinary commission in London.

Gillingham's manager, Keith Peacock, who conducted the *player's defence, said*: "It's a pity that it had to go to these lengths". Price's teammate, Colin Powell, and Dave Cusack (Southend United) spoke on his behalf. Gillingham also called the referee, Howard Taylor (Leicestershire), to give evidence. Moody, Southend's physiotherapist, Brian Beckett, and three spectators at the game, which Southend won 3—0, gave evidence against him.

☐ Jimmy Nicholl, Manchester United's Northern Ireland defender, is joining Sunderland on a month's loan. Earlier this *week United* agreed terms with Sunderland, but Ron Atkinson insisted on a straight cash deal of £250,000 and refused to let Nichol go on loan. Yesterday Mr Atkinson had a change of heart and Nicholl is now set to play for Sunderland against Manchester City tomorrow.

☐ Ron Noades, of Crystal Palace, *is the Football League's first paid* chairman and managing director. He was appointed at a board meeting earlier this week.

Mr Noades has been giving all his time to the affairs of the club since his consortium bought out Ray Bloye's controlling interest last January for £600,000.

Since the FA approved paid directors last month there have been several appointments, Malcolm Macdonald of Fulham *being the first. But Mr Noades is* the first to be also chairman of the board.

Today's fixtures

THIRD DIVISION: Millwall v Plymouth Argyle (7.30).
FOURTH DIVISION: Colchester United v Crewe Alexandra (7.30).
POSTPONED MATCHES. Second division: Rotherham United v Wrexham. Third division: Chester v Bristol City. Fourth division: Scunthorpe United v Stockport County; Tranmere Rovers v Peterborough United.

Rackets

Miss Irons tries to dent male preserve

By Roy McKelvie

Another male entrenchment was breached last evening when a girl competed in the hitherto totally masculine public schools *rackets championship at Queen's* Club. Miss Rosanda Irons, a sixth former at Wellington College, lost to Ruper Pearce (Malvern) by 15—2, 15—1, but blazed a trail for others just as did Baroness Wentworth early this century when she built her own real tennis court and claimed the ladies championship of the world. Now there are over 1,000 women playing that game in this country.

If those three post-war England cricketers and *distinguished* rackets players, Hubert Doggart, Colin Cowdray and Ted Dexter, choke over their breakfast coffee this morning, no one should be surprised.

For 113 years, since the championships began in 1868, schools rackets has been a male preserve, *not just because only boys* schools passess courts, but because no one thought girls strong or nimble enough to play what is the fastest moving ball *game in the world. After last* night's affair they could be right. Miss Irons may have been nervous but she simply could not turn quickly enough to take Pearce's service.

Blonde Miss Irons, daughter of a civil engineer, lives in Chorleywood and was at Northwood College before going to Wellington to study maths, physics and chemistry. With three good A-levels, she hopes to yo to Cambridge and later become a *chemical engineer. At Wellington* she was head of her house and a college prefect.

At under-19 level she has played hockey and cricket for Middlesex and swum for Bucks. Her interestin rackets began while watching the school pair in action. She said: "Two of us—we were wearing our tights—watched the match and asked the professional if we could have a game. We had a konckabout in court and then asked if we could *carry on and he gave us a weekly* court. I find rackets a very challenging game. It's so fast. I much prefer it to squash." Miss Irons may find in the end that squash *is a much easier game.*

QUEENS: Public Schools championships: The Renny Cup level singles: First round: C A D'Oyly (Wellington) beat E R Clark (Rugby) 15—4, 11—15, 15—3; C A L Hill (Marlborough) beat S G Brundan (Charterhouse) 15—12, 15—10; D J M Tildesley (Rugby) beat M A Adams (Clifton) 15—12, 15—11; P Hall (Winchester) beat I A Hunter (Rugby) 17—4, 13—16, 15—8; J Crocker (Winchester) beat I A Hunter (Rugby) 17—14, 15—2, 15—3; S A B Greig (Harrow) beat T R H Simmonds (Charterhouse) 4—15, 15—10, 15—12; J C Fenelov (Clifton) beat P J F Daniell (Malvern) 15—5, 15—7; T R P Shaw (Tonbridge) beat J Beckett (Charterhouse) 15—2, 15—5; P J Kidd (Marlborough) beat A Teed (Winchester) 7—15, 15—10, 15—11; I M P Evans (Clifton) beat A J S Seaville (Wellington) 15—4, 15—5; J D Barnes (Rugby) beat J Threshie (Malvern) 15—4, 15—9; A M M Wilmot (Tonbridge) beat W Wilcox (Malvern) 15—0, 15—10; C A M Anderson (Charterhouse) wo J R B Cole (Clifton); P R V Maxwell (Winchester) beat S Case (Marlborough) 15—0, 15—3; H J L Paul (Harrow) wo C W Snow (Radley); J M Warren (Harrow) beat S Shivdasani (Eton) 15—3, 15—0; J E C Faber (Eton) wo M Lock (Malvern); J R B Sutcliffe (Winchester) wo T R Symonds (Haileybury). Jim Dear Cup (under-15): semi-final round: D J Nirmalalingham (Harrow) beat R R W Bonallack (Haileybury) 15—3, 15—7; P Baily (Eton) beat M C Small (Eton) 15—7, 15—1. Final: Nirmalalingham beat Bailey, 15—10, 15—16, 15—5, 15—4.

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Cricket

England lose concentration on a wicket showing signs of wear

From Richard Streeton
Jammu, Dec 17

England suffered the rare indignity, for a three-day match in India, of finishing behind on the first innings against North Zone here today. Some wretched batting caused England's *dismissal for 184* in reply to North Zone's score of 167. By the close North Zone were 88 for two and lead overall by 101 runs.

Although the wicket was starting to show signs of wear there was a clear lack of concentration about England's performance. Chauhan and Lamba, the North Zone opening batsmen, showed far more assurance later when they shared a first wicket stand of 71 in 115 minutes.

They drove and cut Allott and Lever and when Emburey bowled he did not get the same assistance from the pitch as the home spinners had done. Chauhan, who gave one chance at 21 to the slips off Lever, was beaten through the air by Emburey half an hour from the end but there was no doubt that North Zone, having been outplayed on Wednesday, had come back strongly.

Even Raman Subba Row, the England manager, was critical of England's showing. "It was a pretty disturbing performance. You cannot paper over the cracks. We will have to bat a lot better in the second innings. I am particularly upset over the unnecessary dismissal. When a wicket is doing a bit you do not actually make donations to the opposition."

This was taken to be a reference to Gower's failure. He was run out for the third time on the tour.

England's batting, to be frank, was poor and uninspired and that takes nothing away from North Zone who bowled steadily and took some good catches in the morning. England lost six wickets, while 55 runs were added to the overnight score, in 30 overs and *they were all out inside an hour* after lunch.

Sharma and Amarnath bowled most of the morning and their inswing bothered nearly everyone. The pitch had started to deteriorate and took turn sharply when the left arm spinners, Maninder Singh and Chopra, *dismissed the tail.*

A less determinable factor was whether the England players were finding it hard to summon the same application for this match as they might have done for a more significant occasion. This visit to Jammu is something of a chore in some ways coming as it does during a *three*-week period when three Test matches and a one-day international are also on the schedule.

Gooch and Boycott, who made 73 together on Wednesday evening, were both out in the *first* 45 minutes to l-b-w decisions which seemed to surprise them. Their *dismissals perhaps have* to be considered a case of swings and roundabouts as each of them had survived earlier appeals that looked more justified. Tavaré suggested briefly that he intended to discard the hair shirt he dons in Tests before he was brilliantly caught low at square leg from a *hard hit.*

Gatting once again on this tour showed more determination than most. He played several firm strokes during a stay through 22 overs before he was caught behind trying to drive past cover on the back foot. Gower's dismissal two balls later was less pardonable *than most. He pushed a ball from* Amarnath into the covers and set off for a run but was slow to respond when Cook sent him back. Emburey drove a ball firmly off his legs and was smartly caught at forward short leg.

Cook had lasted out for 45 minutes when he was beaten after lunch while pushing forward defensively. The slump continued with Richards snicking an intended drive to slip. Lever hit one four with a *reverse sweep* against Maninder Singh but was bowled trying to repeat the stroke. Allott, having his first innings of the tour, lofted a four off Chopra and *was then caught at slip trying to* make room for a cover drive.



Gatting: showed more determination than most

NORTH ZONE: First innings: 167 (A Malhotra 80; P J W Allott 5 for 54, J K Lever 4 for 37).
Second innings

C P S Chauhan, b Emburey	45
R Lamba, c Gatting, b Emburey	34
D Chopra, not out	7
Extras	4
Total (2 wkts)	88

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—7, 2—88.
†S Khanna, *M Amarnath, Y Sharma, A Malhotra, Gursharan Singh, H (A Malhotra 80; P J W Allott 5 for bat.
BOWLING (to date): Lever, 11—6—15—0; Allott, 6—0—34—0; Emburey, 10.3—2—24—2; Willis, 6—2—13—0.

ENGLAND: First Innings

G A Gooch, l-b-w, b Sharma	42
G Boycott, l-b-w, b Amarnath	35
M W Gatting, c Khanna, b Amarnath	26
C J Tavaré, c Shukla, b Sharma	7
D I Gower, run out	0
G Cook, l-b-w, b Maninder Singh	8
J E Emburey, c Shukla, b Amarnath	2
J K Lever, b Maninder Singh	16
†C J Richards, c Amarnath, b Chopra	8
P J W Allott, c Chauhan, b Chopra	4
*R G D Willis, not out	0
Extras (b 8, l-b 1, n-b 1)	10
Total	184

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—76, 2—95, 3—110, 4—120, 5—121, 6—123, 7—131, 8—146, 9—180, 10—184.
BOWLING: Amarnath, 28—6—75—3; Lamba, 2—0—20—0; Maninder Singh, 15—6—27—2; Talwar, 2—1—4—0; Shukla, 1—0—0—0; Sharma, 14—6—12—2; Chopra, 1.3—1—4—2.

World Series Cup is delicately poised

Brisbane, Dec 17.—The West Indian cricketers' unofficial title of one-day world champions will be at stake this weekend when they meet Australia and Pakistan on successive days in the current World Series Cup. The touring team, who fly to Perth tonight, go into battle against Pakistan on Saturday and the Australians 24 hours later, having won just one of their three previous matches in the series.

The competition is delicately poised with Pakistan, who beat Australia by six wickets today, top of the table with three wins from five matches. Australia have won two of their four matches but will have to lift their game if they are to overcome the fiery West Indian attack.

West Indies will be without their opener Greenidge who is receiving intensive treatment for a knee injury. Greenidge declined to comment on his chances of being fit for the first Test against Australia in Melbourne on December 26.

The other openers, Haynes and Bacchus, should both be fit for the *two* matches, although Bacchus *had his left foot and ankle* heavily strapped after scoring a century against Queensland Country yesterday. West Indies, with seven matches still to play, have the chance to arrest their slide and force their way into the final series, beginning on January 23. But they must continue their present momentum and win at least one of their games at the weekend.—Reuter.

Home truths aired on rigging of pitches

By John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent

Some home truths were aired at Lord's yesterday, at the winter meeting of the Test and County Cricket Board, about the rigging of pitches. More counties than ever before seem to have been prepared to admit that, yes, they do prepare pitches to suit their own home bowlers, rather than try to make them as they can and as they are asked to do, "dry, hard, fast and true as is possible".

If more fingers were pointed at the new county champions, Nottinghamshire, than at anyone else, they are certainly not the only culprits. It is an old and not unnatural practice. Why the authorities are so keen to stop it is not only because it can be looked upon as sharp practice but for the damage it does to the game. It was described yesterday as being "totally unacceptable". All counties have undertaken to eliminate it. If at some future date there are those who make an insufficient effort to do so, they could be subjected either to financial penalties or, alternatively, visiting captains could be given choice of innings.

It was a useful meeting. By amending the wording of the rule concerning substitutes steps have been taken to curb the now *widespread habit which bowlers* have of leaving the field for a change of shirt or socks, or a rub-down. Only if the umpires are satisfied that a player has been injured or become ill during a match may he in future have a substitute. In West Indies last winter bowlers were leaving the field at the end of a spell without so much as a by-your-leave—as was Lillee in England last summer.

This time last year the spinner got the worst of all *worlds* with the introduction of full covering of pitches yet with a new ball still available after 85 overs. Looking back on it, that had to be wrong. Although full covering is to continue in 1982 a new ball will be available only after 100 overs. In theory at any rate the extra 15 overs should provide more scope for the spinners. I am not saying it will, but it should. Increased fines for slow over-rates may also help. In 1981 Sussex, at £6.61 an hour, had the slowest over-rate. The £2,000 which that cost them would by the new scale be £6,000.

From 1983 onwards the number of Schweppes championship matches will be increased from 22 to 24. In 1982 for the first time all counties will play standard hours—from 11 until 6.30 on the first two days and 11 until six on the third. There was a *division of opinion on the desirability* of playing from 11 until seven. In the end this was rejected, a decision that would have disappointed the late Sir Pelham Warner, who used to say that if on the day he died there was a match in progress at Lord's he asked only that there should be an extra half hour's play. In the event he died in January 1963, the last protractedly cold winter.

In all limited-over competitions (not only as now the Benson and Hedges) the circle rule will apply in 1982. It met last year with general approval. In the John Player Sunday League if the side fielding first fails to bowl 40 overs by 4.10 (assuming a two o'clock start and an uninterrupted afternoon) it will be obliged to receive fewer overs than its opponents.

The Lambert and Butler floodlit competition staged this year in September with the blessing of the TCCB is to be discontinued. Although the sponsors remain willing the weather tends to be against it and the cricket played *has lacked conviction. There is* talk instead of staging at some future time a world double-wicket tournament.

Superb century by Zaheer basis of Pakistan's win

Sydney, Dec 17.—Zaheer Abbas scored a typically exciting century and inspired Pakistan to a six-wicket victory over Australia in their world series one-day international match here today. Pakistan, fresh from a resounding victory in the third Test in Melbourne, easily overhauled Australia's 50-over total *of* 222 for six by reaching 223 for four with seven overs to spare.

Pakistan's triumph took them *to the top of the world series* table with three wins from their five matches. Australia have won two and lost two.

Zaheer hit a sparkling 108 before being bowled by the Australian captain Greg Chappell but that was not enough to earn him the Man of the Match award. That went to the all-rounder Mudassar Nazar, who followed up a superb spell of bowling, which brought him three wickets at a *cost of 20 runs in 10 overs, with* a flamboyant 50 in 108 minutes.

Pakistan, who sent Australia in on an easy-paced pitch, made an early breakthrough when Sikander Bakht bowled Laird for 12 with the total on 40.

Rick Darling and Wood took the score to 106 before the rot set in. Wood fell to Mudassar for 25 and Border and Chappell quickly joined him in the pavi*lion. A misjudgment* by Wellham led to Darling being run out for 74 before Marsh, who hit an unbeaten 54, staged a late recovery.

AUSTRALIA

R Darling, run out	74
B Laird, b Sikander	12
G Wood, b Mudassar	25
A Border, c Ashraf, b Mudassar	3
D Wellham, run out	40
*G S Chappell, c Miandad, b Mudassar	0
†R W Marsh, not out	54
Extras (b2, lb7, w1, nb5)	15
Total (6 wkts)	222

D Lillee, T Alderman, J Thomson and G Lawson did not bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1—40, 2—106, 3—110, 4—132, 5—132, 6—222.
BOWLING: Imran Khan, 10—0—47—0; Sikander Bakht, 8—0—18—1; Sarfraz Nawaz, 9—0—38—0; Tahir Naqash, 3—0—21—0; Majid Khan, 10—0—35—0; Mudassar Nazar, 10—4—20—3.

PAKISTAN

Mudassar Nazar, c Alderman, b Thomson	50
Mohsin Khan, b Lawson	2
Zaheer Abbas, b Chappell	108
*Javed Miandad, l-b-w, b Chappell	22
Majid Khan, not out	20
Wasim Raja, not out	11
Extras (b2, lb5, w4, nb1)	12
Total (4 wkts, 43.2 overs)	223

Sikander Bakht, †Wasim Bari, Sarfraz Nawaz, Tahir Naqash and Ashraf Ali did not bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1—15, 2—120, 3—174, 4—205.
BOWLING: G Lawson, 9—0—45—1; T Alderman, 10—1—41—0; D Lillee, 8—1—38—0; J Thomson, 7—0—27—1; A Border, 3—0—24—0; G Chappell 6.2—0—38—2.

Rugby Union

Barbarians pick two Frenchmen

By Peter West

The French international forwards, Robert Paparemborde and Jean-Luc Joinel, *have been* chosen to play for the Barbarians against Leicester on December 29, along with three others who will be representing the touring side for the first time. These are Richard Moriarty, the Swansea lock, who won his first cap for *Wales against Australia* earlier this month; Roger Baird, who is due for a similar distinction, on the wing, when Scotland meet Australia tomorrow; and Peter Winterbottom, the Headingley and Yorkshire openside flanker, who has been chosen for the Rest in tomorrow's England trial at Twickenham.

An attractive combination includes Gareth Davies and Terry Holmes at half back as well as three other Welshmen, five Scots and three Englishmen. No doubt the English representation has been limited out of deference to national business—the Australian international—the following Saturday. In the *event* of Tony Swift or Winterbottom being required in some capacity for that encounter, they would find them*selves under obvious pressure to* withdraw from the match at Welford Road.

Leicester are waiting to hear what England's requirements will be against Australia before naming their side and will leave it to their international players to make up their own minds *whether they want to appear for* the club only four days before the international. First, of course, those players must confirm their selection for England. But it is known that, while Peter Wheeler is keen to play against the Barbarians, the centres, Paul Dodge and Clive Woodward, would prefer to *miss* the *Tuesday game.*

Leicester's coach "Chalky" White, holds that his England players should not play so close to the international. In that event the club might want to choose against Bristol tomorrow the side they intend should meet the Barbarians. To ensure a game, Leicester have agreed to play at Bristol because their own Wellford Road pitch it still frozen.

BARBARIANS: G Evans (Maesteg); A J Swift (Swansea), D S Richards (Swansea), D I Johnston (Watsonians), G R T Baird (Kelso); W G Davies (Cardiff), T D Holmes (Cardiff); R Paparemborde (Pau), C T Deans (Hawick), G A F Sargent (Gloucester), R D Moriarty (Swansea), W Cuthbertson (Kilmarnock), J-L Joinel (Brive), P J Winterbottom (Headingley), D G Leslie (Gala).

☐ Twickenham officials are confident that the England trial tomorrow will go ahead as planned. The snow cleared from the pitch last Monday and since then it has been covered by protective sheeting. Auxiliary heaters are available if necessary. Dennis Morgan, the administrative secretary of the RFU, said: "It is true that I have checked with other venues in the West. But if conditions stay as they are we shall have no *problems here* and the game will definitely be played."

Ella back to best, Templeton says

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

The Australian party trained hard in icy and snowy conditions at North Berwick yesterday morning when their coach, Bob Templeton, gave the forwards some hard scrummaging practice against local opposition. The doughty No 8, Mark Loane, took no part because of a sore throat. Nor did Andrew Slack, a centre whose thoughtful skills have been making a consistent impression. *But both are expected to be fit* for tomorrow's international against Scotland.

The affable and ever helpful Mr Templeton did not wholly concur with me yesterday when I suggested that they had taken a calculated risk in the choice of Mark Ella at stand-off half. "His *last two games have been especially good*", the coach observed, with truth. "His confidence has risen, and we feel he's back to his best and most exciting form. What's more, he's got the 'pro' amongst our backs, Paul McLean, alongside him in the middle."

These are all valid points, although I dare say Scotland will remain anxious to discover how Ella reacts under pressure. I hasten to add that I have never been in any doubt about his sparkling attacking talents.

Mr Templeton described the mood of the Wallaby camp as being "keyed up, but not edgy, without perhaps the degree of intensity which surrounds every*body going down to Wales for the* big game". He of course regrets the enforced absence of their splendid scrum half, John Hipwell, but stressed that it would do the morale of *Philip Cox—and* that of Ella, too—no harm at all to know that they were now *in* the front line in their own right. *This New South Wales partner*ship was in action in the first two internationals (13—9 and 9—12) against New Zealand in 1980. Philip Cox had to miss the third match in the series when Australia succeeded by 26—10, their biggest winning margin over the All Blacks.

The Wallabies' coach is under no illusions about the threat posed by Scotland's talented runners, but declined to be drawn into forecasting tomorrow's result. "It has all the makings of a very interesting clash indeed", he observed, "but, like Jim Telfer, I'm keeping an open mind about it. If you want to suggest that it will be Aust*ralia by one point, I'll settle for* that."

Scotland's reserve scrum half, Alan Lawson, has withdrawn *with back trouble, his place going* to David Bryson, of Gala, who will hope—if he gets into the action—to find the same sort of superiority in front of him as he is accustomed to do with his club. Lawson, who has won 15 caps, this season announced his retirement from international *football but patriotically* answered the selectors' call at a time when Roy Laidlaw and other leading contenders were struggling with injuries.

The Gala flanker, David Leslie, passed a fitness test when Scotland trained yesterday. He bruised a leg last weekend. He missed *last* Sunday's practice with the national squad, as did the hooker, Colin Deans, with an upset stomach. But Deans is now restored to the vermilion.

Winterbottom's meteoric rise from Headingley to Twickenham

A farmer on the England fringe

Peter Winterbottom, of Headingley and Yorkshire, is one young man who will have been watching the vagaries of the current Arctic weather with more than usual concern. He *farms the dales above Skipton,* plays his club rugby for Headingley, and, after a meteoric rise to something approaching fame, is selected as a flanker for the full England trial, at Twickenham, postponed once and rearranged for tomorrow.

At the start of the season he was desperately keen to get a game for Yorkshire. If things went really well, there was always the possibility of selection for England Under-23. That reality has so exceeded expectation, including selection for England B against France B, is a tribute to his undoubted talent.

Winterbottom will not be 22 until May but humping bales of hay and sacks of seed has toughened him prodigiously since his schooldays at Rossall, and he was certainly no pale aesthete then, as a successful school rugby *career confirmed. He played for* England Colts in a well beaten pack which faced a powerful French side in Paris, and demonstrated clearly that, with regard to physical presence and pace, he was potentially in the top bracket.

He is self-effacing on the subject of his own speed, but those of us who watched him zoom around Kirkstall like a blond, avenging fury during the match with Lancashire, tackling anything that moved, may have fewer reservations on the subject. He showed outstanding stamina on that occasion, and yet is no fitness fanatic.

With his shy, almost apologetic grin, he explains his predicament. "I often mean to do some weight training but we're working till 6.30 or seven or later and I never seem to get round to it."

The shape of his day's work on his uncle Donald Sunderland's *farm clearly explains the lack of* any need for training. Winterbottom, who lives with his parents in Otley, arrives at the farm at Halton East, just outside Skipton, at 7.20. "We milk till about nine, then it's breakfast time. The mornings are spent carrying hay, mucking out and feeding the cattle, and by four o'clock it's time to start milking again. We're on the go all day."

Winterbottom tries to glue *himself to the ball from the kick*-off and not leave it until the final whistle. Most flankers are preeminent at either defence or attack; *few* are equally effective at both. After the Lancashire match at Kirkstall, one old England player, praising Winterbottom's defensive qualities, added: "I'd like to see him when he's going forward with the ball in his hands before making any judgment."

Those of us who have watched him develop during the past four years know well that he is basically a complete player, though still in the making; neither merely a destroyer nor a creator but potentially both. One facet of his game that may never blossom is his lineout play. Standing just 6ft, he will find it increasingly hard as he advances in rugby to compete with the tall men at the back of the line, though Tony Neary, a magnificent lineout man, was only fractionally taller.

One of the results of his swift advancement in the game is that he has been the willing recipient of advice from the great and *famous. "It came as a bit of a* surprise when Tony Neary said to me recently that I wasn't obstructing the opposition flankers enough and, when I came to think of what he meant, I remembered playing for Headingley against Wasps a year or two ago. Roger Uttley never allowed me near the *ball for the whole match.*"

His successes have brought great pleasure to friends and family alike but to none more than his father, John Winterbottom, past chairman and president of Headingley and present chairman of the ground committee and match secretary. An attack *of poliomyelitis* during the war prevented his fulfilling early promise, but there are few more devoted rugby men in the country. Michael, Peter's *younger brother,* who plays for Headingley Colts, has also watched with delight Peter's speedy graduation from a highly promising but virtually unknown flanker to a person of real stature in the game, who may well represent his country at full international level in the *next few years.*

Yet there is no pomposity or swank about the young man who was captivatingly referred to in the press not so long ago as Walter Winterbottom. He thoroughly enjoys the occasional game of cricket but finds little or no time to read or to watch *television. His life* is too full of farming and rugby.

Steve Elliott

Romanians go under in the snow

By Steve Elliott
Birkenhead Park 13 Steaua 11

Steaua Bucharest, on a short tour from Romania, where they are club champions, lost an exhilarating contest in the snowy wastes of Birkenhead Park, last night, scoring two tries and a penalty goal to Park's try and three penalties.

The snow lay four inches deep, but where the lines and touches had been cleared the ground was like *concrete; any kick ahead* pancaked in the snow and frozen fingers and an ice-covered ball made handling a perilous occupation.

Steaua pressed initially, with Alexandru hoisting so high that poor Davis was overwhelmed as he received the ball and a liberal *helping of enthusiastic Romanians.* Somehow Park withstood the fierce pressure and were soon on the attack themselves, with McHugh, a talented scrum half, probing and kicking intelligently and his partner, Dobbing, coming close with a dropped goal attempt.

Tata dropped a certain scoring pass after a brilliant Bucharest handling move, but Park led when Alexandru was penalized near the posts for not allowing McNerlin to release and Dobbing kicked the goal. Park relinquished their lead immediately when McHugh collected the kick-off but delayed his clearing kick for Munteanu to charge it down, collect adroitly and score a fine try, to give the visitors a 4—3 half-time lead.

Park regained the lead shortly after the resumption when *McGovern was tackled short of* the line, a Bucharest man handled on the ground, and Dobbing kicked the penalty. Alexandru and Dobbing swapped further penalties, but the crucial score was engineered by the admirable McHugh. He chipped to the line, where Dobbing got possession and gave McShane the scoring pass. A brilliant run for Bucharest by Cantoneru paved the way for a late try by Zamfirescu, but Park just managed to hold on.

BIRKENHEAD PARK: P Davis; P McShane, P McNerlin, D Newman, P Kolokotroni; P Dobbing, J McHugh; J Cairns, R Tinsley, R Bold, C Plummer, D Reynolds, N Powell, M Bennett, K McGovern.
STEAUA BUCHAREST: V Tata; S Sulea, D Enache, I Zamfirescu, C Rosu; D Alexandru, E Suleu; G Polar, M Munteanu, O Corneliu, I Catin, N Ciocarec, V Cantoneru, C Florea, A Radulescu.
Referee: F Howard (Liverpool).

☐ England's Rugby Union prop, Colin White, takes over as captain of Gosforth for their trip to Nottingham tomorrow.

Cup holders waiting

St Mary's, the holders, have been drawn against the winners *of the match between Middlesex* and St George's in the Hospitals Cup rugby competition, which *starts next month.*

DRAW: First round: Jan 12: Charing Cross v Royal Free, University College v Guy's; 14: St Thomas's v King's College, Middlesex v St George's. Second round: Jan 26: Westminster v Charing Cross or Royal Free, St Bartholomew's v St Thomas's or King's College; 28: London v University College or Guy's, St Mary's v Middlesex or St George's.

Boxing

World 'passport' will make the ring a much safer place

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

The first of the World Boxing Council's schemes to make the ring a safer place for boxers goes into operation next March with the introduction of the international boxing licence. The "passport" which is the concept of Ray Clarke, the Secretary of the British Boxing Board of Control will not only stop mismatches but also medically unfit boxers from climbing into the ring. The licence will carry the boxer's record for the past two years or last 12 contests together with medical comments.

The board said yesterday that the move had not come about as a result of the outcry over the death in New York two years ago of Willie Classen, who had, before that, boxed in Britain without proper papers. Mr Clarke said: "We have been thinking about the passport for several years, even before the Classen affair. We have been concerned about international matches for a long time and have considered many ways of improving information between countries in the interest of the boxers. We recognize it is our responsibility to check on visiting boxers and on opponents for our own boxers going abroad. But it is not easy to check papers of boxers from certain places and something has to be done about it."

Mr Clarke intends to place a deadline as far as Britain is concerned for the smooth operation of the scheme after which the rule will be followed to the letter. "It will take time for the licence to catch on world wide and there will naturally be problems at the start" Mr Clarke said, "but so long as the major boxing nations support it completely, it will work. Once the teething period is over the British Boxing Board of Control will insist that the scheme is carried out to the letter for our boxers and for any boxers wanting to work here." Countries and individuals who do not cooperate will be banned from boxing in places operating the rule. The World Boxing Association, the other world body, have not yet introduced the plan but are studying it and it is hoped that they, too, will bring in a passport with their imprimatur.

Other safety measures that the WBC are looking into are thumbless gloves to prevent eye injuries in close fighting, and a closed cell glove filling that will lessen direct contact between knuckle and target. A safety mat will go on trial at the York Hall in the new year. So far most of the thumbless gloves produced have been given the thumbs down by the board. The best one has been made by the American company, Everlast, and is being examined and a British company is also considering developing the glove.

Maurice Hope's supporters will be holding thumbs when the former world light-middleweight champion returns at the Albert Hall on January 19. Hope meets Reg Ford, of Guyana, the man who ended Dave Green's career last month, Andy Smith, his manager, pulling Green out in the fifth round and announcing his retirement from the ring. Ford is a fine boxer and just the man to test Hope, who has been nominated for the European light-middleweight title. Ford has insisted on arriving in Britain seven days before the contest because he says that in the Green bout he was suddenly hit by jet lag.

Another former world champion, Cornelius Boza-Edwards meets Ramon Garcia Marichal, of Spain, on the same bill.

Table tennis



Johnson: now well in the public eye

Lowly England make their place secure

By a Special Correspondent

England's 4—3 win over Czechoslovakia in the European Superleague on Wednesday which made them safe in the top division for another season, was one of the most surprising and welcome successes for several years. Although England, runners up last April, finished above the Czechoslovaks last time much has since changed.

European champion John Hilton has faded from view, former national champion Paul Day has been kept out from injury and two young players, Douggie Johnson and Graham Sandley have made their first singles appearances. Even at full strength it is always an extremely difficult task to beat Czechoslovakia, who were champions in 1979, on their home territory. On this occasion a weakened side with only one win beat another which was unbeaten, top of the table, and going very well.

The success was not only unexpected but ominous. If confirmed what has been increasingly apparent recently, that Desmond Douglas, this season unbeaten in the Superleague with eight wins, is playing more than well enough to have a chance of becoming European champion in April. All he needs is a little luck. It also confirmed that Johnson is likely to continue where Hilton left off in keeping controversy about combination bats before the public eye.

Johnson so far this year has beaten players ranked fifth, sixth and eighth in Europe and all of them—Orlowski, Secretin and Gergely—former European champions, which is fairly remarkable for someone who yesterday was ranked No 3 in his country. As so often with combination bat players, good domestic results are far harder to come by. The joke once was that Hilton used to be No 5 in the world and No 6 in Manchester YMCA. Home players have a chance to inspect the spins at close range more frequently and even to lend a good ear to the different noises of the two different rubbers. Douglas always sees Johnson off in no time, and Day demolished him almost as rapidly in the Humberside Three Star tournament recently.

That is not intended to discredit Johnson who has improved steadily. To be pitched into a first Superleague singles against someone of Orlowski's class and to win was a tremendous triumph of temperament, determination and courage, especially when the Czechoslovak came back from 16—19 to 19-all in the decider. The win paved the way for Douglas to clinch the match almost single-handed.

At 23, Johnson may now have a successful and possibly a spectacular 18 months ahead. After that the future is less clear. It is hard to see him surviving legislation insisting on different colours for different rubbers and that will be up for debate again at the next world championship in April, 1983. Last time 60 per cent voted in favour of the new legislation and a 75 per cent majority is needed. According to ITTS sources, next time it may succeed, and it is hard not to believe that Johnson may ultimately be contributing to his own downfall.

Hilton a notable absentee from English rankings

By Richard Eaton

John Hilton, the European champion whose fortunes have suffered a steady decline this season, does not appear in the English rankings for the first time since his rise to prominence in the mid-seventies. He was also omitted from England's European Super League team after one match in September and has not reappeared in the squad since. It is impossible to avoid the conclusion that Hilton's England prospects like those of others before him, are suffering through a decision to base himself in Germany.

Other rankings, however, give cause for optimism. The improving Paul Day takes Hilton's place at No 2 and the fastest riser on a list that has been computerized for the first time is Skylet Andrew, a 19-year-old left-hander who was English schools champion. Andrew reached the final of the Midland Three-Star tournament recently before losing to Douggie Johnson, and has prospered since leaving the former national league champions Sealink Milton Keynes.

He has turned in some fine performances for his new club, Unity, and has gone from 21 to nine on the list, thus becoming the first black player to make the top 10 since the elevation of Desmond Douglas seven years ago.

MEN: (1) D Douglas (Birmingham), (2) P Day (Soham), (3) D Johnson (Birmingham), (4) G Sandley (Potters Bar), (5) D Parker (Preston), (6) K Jackson (Romford), (7) M Crimmins (Wimbledon), (8) N Eckersley (Warrington), (9) S Andrew (Stratford), (10) D Wells (Tottenham).

WOMEN: (1) J Hammersley (Preston), (2) K Witt (Reading), (3) A Gordon (Reading), (4) L Jarvis (Guiseley), (5) C Knight (Middlesbrough), (6) A Stevenson (Loughborough), (7) A Mitchell (Edmonton), (8) K Smith (Leicester), (9) H Williams (Enfield), (10) M Hill (Bradford).

Sports Council

Scottish aid to improve main grounds

By Iain Mackenzie

The Scottish Sports Council yesterday gave £500,000 towards the cost of improving the international association and rugby football grounds at Hampden Park and Murrayfield. At a special meeting in Edinburgh yesterday the Council decided to offer each code £250,000 to the two projects over a period of five years.

The Scottish Rugby Union are building a new stand which will seat 11,000 to replace the existing East terracing at Murrayfield at a cost of £3.15m. About half the cost is to be raised through an interest-free loan scheme which will guarantee one ticket each year for 20 years for every £400 loaned.

In Glasgow, the Queen's Park Football Club, with assistance from the Scottish Football Association, has embarked on a £2.3m project to improve and modernize Hampden between now and the end of 1985. The Sports Council's offer of a grant towards the cost is subject to the submission and the approval of details of the Hampden Park project.

The Council's chairman Mr Peter Heatly said yesterday: "Since its inception the Council has argued that every sport in Scotland should have at least one venue capable of housing events of international standard. Successive governments have endorsed this principle.

"Over the years we have helped with the provision of international facilities for several sports, but mainly in rowing, skiing, ice sports and cricket. Now we are looking towards the needs of some others such as snooker and shooting. But this is the first time we have done anything for Scotland's two major spectator sports".

Mr Heatly said that he believed that the upgrading of both Murrayfield and Hampden was not only desirable but necessary. He was glad to offer this "modest help" on behalf of the Sports Council.

"We would like to do much more but we just cannot afford it", he said. "In any case it is entirely in line with the government's thinking that we should be seen to be supporting self help and not replacing it".

Mr Heatly said that he wanted to congratulate both the Scottish Rugby Union and the Scottish Football Association on their initiative. He was glad to be able to offer some assistance to them to ensure that both codes of football would have grounds which Scotland could be proud of.

Mr Ken Hutchison, the Council's Chief Executive, said: "The Council has frequently given grants and offered help to sports throughout the country but this is a diversion. Normally we help the clubs themselves but in this case we are helping the spectators. I believe that is most important for the future of both the rugby and soccer games in Scotland".

For the record

Basketball

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Boston Celtics 109, Dallas Mavericks 93; New York Knicks 117, Philadelphia 76-ers 115; Chicago Bulls 98, New Jersey Nets 97; Washington Bullets 106, Cleveland Cavaliers 102; Kansas City Kings 97, Phoenix Suns 81.

KORAC CUP: Quarter-final, second series: Cagiva Varese 83, Zadar Zara (Yugoslavia) 75; Sebastini Rieti 106, Val Ladollo (Spain) 93; Latte Sole (Italy) 89, Efes Pilsen (Turkey) 84; Orthez (France) 95, Juventud Badalona (Spain) 76.

Cycling

MAASTRICHT: Six-day Professional Race: Final leading placings: 1 R Pijnen and A Wijnands (Netherlands) 517 pts; 2, A Fritz and G Schumacher (WG) 458; 3, U Hempel and J Kristen (WG) 881, one lap behind: 4, J Raas and G Knetemann (Netherlands) 498/1; 5, M Burton and G Wiggins (GB and Australia) 423/8; 6, J Zoetemelk and R Safary (Netherlands and Switzerland) 413/11.

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Montreal Canadiens 6, Hartford Whalers 1; Philadelphia Flyers 7, New York Rangers 3; Pittsburgh Penguins 7, Los Angeles Kings 6; Winnipeg Jets 3, Chicago Black Hawks 3; Edmonton Oilers 7, Colorado Rockies 4; Toronto Maple Leafs 6, Vancouver Canucks 6.

MOTORING by Peter Waymark

Driving safely through snow

The surest way to change the weather is to write a piece about driving in snow and ice, and by the time these words appear in print it is likely that the entire British Isles will be bathed in sunshine with temperatures in the fifties.

The savage weather of the last week or so did, as usual, catch motorists on the hop, although in our defence it must be said that many of us can go through a whole winter without even seeing a snowflake. That, to a large extent, is the trouble: unlike our counterparts in, say, Scandinavia, we just do not get enough practice in coping with severe conditions.

How many drivers, as they slid on ice or hard-packed snow, could call upon any formal instruction in skid control? When did they last have to correct a skid? Even at low speed, to lose control of a car can be horrifying and the temptation is to do the worst possible thing and bang on the brakes.

It happened to me more than once last week. Driving the 5-litre S class Mercedes as smoothly and gently as I could, taking care to dab the brakes and go easy on the throttle I still, on frozen slush, felt the wheels going. Remembering the two golden rules of skid control — feet off the pedals and steer in the direction of the skid — I just kept out of trouble.

But after the third such episode I decided that enough was enough and pulled thankfully into the side of the road. Almost opposite, as luck would have it, was a railway station and I joined British Rail's London-bound commuters for the rest of the journey.

It struck me that a heavy and powerful car like the Mercedes, with automatic transmission that gives less control over the gears, was not perhaps ideal for the conditions. Crawling along in traffic, with 240 bhp fighting against the footbrake, there was a feeling of not being on top of things. Driving a humble Ford Escort, with manual box, I was much happier.

But the main lesson from the last couple of weeks is that too many motorists simply do not adapt their driving to suit the changed circumstances. They go too fast and do not leave themselves enough space to stop in an emergency. Stopping distances on ice are reckoned to be ten times what they are on dry roads.

Then there is the extraordinary reluctance of some drivers to use lights. The law says that dipped headlights must be used in poor visibility and blizzards surely come under that heading. Yet it was still possible to count several vehicles making do on sidelights and even no lights at all.

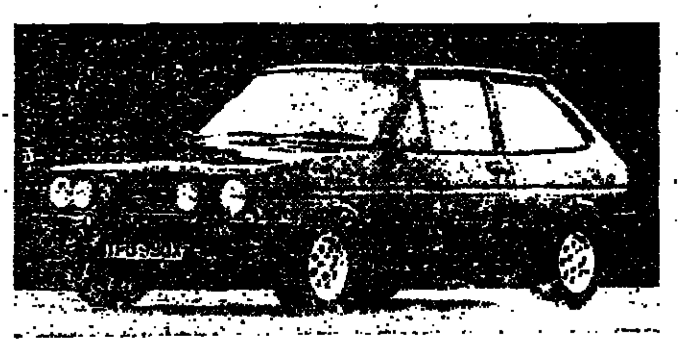
Fitting special winter tyres (sometimes called mud and slush tyres) can help to improve adhesion but since they cost about 10 per cent more than a standard tyre (around £35 to £40 each for a medium family car), the investment may not be considered worth it. Not to mention the bother of having to change the wheels each time that snow threatens.

Dunlop says there is normally so little demand for such tyres that it does not even make them here, supplying the British market from its factory in France. It sells them to drivers who have to remain mobile whatever the weather (doctors, vets, farmers) and mainly in the north of England and Scotland. It points out that winter tyres may be difficult to obtain for small cars like the Fiesta and Metro.

There is even less demand in Britain for the tungsten tipped spikes, which can be fitted to winter tyres for even better grip. Cost, again, is a factor; more than 100 spikes are needed for a medium sized tyre and this can mean a bill of £20. Germany has banned spikes (except for emergency vehicles) because of the damage they can inflict; in Britain, damaging the road surface is an offence, though the fitting of spikes is not.

Cheaper and handier than winter tyres are snow chains, which are usually sold in pairs and fitted to the driving wheels. They cost just under £50 a pair for a medium family saloon and can be carried in the boot. Tyre manufacturers, partly out of self-interest, tend to sound warnings about chains, claiming they can damage tyres; certainly, careful fitting is necessary.

The Automobile Association hires chains, but only at its depot in Dover for motorists venturing abroad.



Sporting and civilized — the Ford Fiesta XR2

Sporting Fiesta

High performance versions of popular cars often represent a straight trading of comfort for handling and refinement for speed; sporting suspension produces a bone-shaking ride and a lusty engine becomes a raucous one. It is much to Ford's credit, therefore, that the Fiesta XR2 is at the same time exciting enough for enthusiast drivers and sufficiently civilized for transporting grandma.

Though built in Spain, the XR2 was prepared by Ford's Special Vehicle Engineering Department in Essex, and is the second product from the team to appear this year after the excellent Capri 2.8-litre injection. The Fiesta has been developed from the 1300S model and the 1.6-litre sold in north America.

The car is powered by a 1598cc engine, developing 84bhp and fitted with automatic choke, electronic breakerless ignition, sports camshaft and Weber twin-venturi carburetter. Ventilated front disc brakes cater for the extra performance and low profile tyres cover the distinctively styled aluminium alloy wheels.

To help handling and roadholding, damper settings have been changed from the standard Fiesta S specification and there is revised front suspension geometry and thicker rear anti-roll bar. Spoilers, front and rear, enhance the sporting appearance and a pair of driving lights has been added to the circular headlights.

Given such a recipe, the high standard of performance and handling is not surprising. With so much power in relation to its size, the XR2 moves from rest to 60 mph through the gears in just over nine seconds, pulls away impressively in top and has a claimed top speed of 105 mph.

On the whole, this brisk progress is not marred by excessive engine noise. There was some vibration when idling and a fifth gear could be helpful for motorway cruising; but at the statutory 70 mph the engine turns over at a fairly relaxed 3,500 rpm and you need to push the needle beyond 4,000 rpm before harshness sets in.

There is some fuel penalty compared with the standard Fiestas, the official figures giving 28.2 mpg in town, 43.5 at 56 mph and 32.8 at 75 mph. The difference is greatest in town driving, where the most economical Fiesta, the 957cc, gives 35.8; on the open road the margin is much less.

Handling is taut and responsive, helped by accurate steering, and the car can be pushed round corners with little roll and plenty of grip from the tyres. The gearbox, too, is crisp and easy to use.

The XR2 costs £5,500 and it is clearly aimed at a specialized market. But it is a happy conversion of a bread-and-butter car into a performance model, and sets a standard by which other entrants into this field, such as BL's proposed MG Metro, will be judged.

The car I tried was fitted with a Citizens' Band radio transceiver, which Ford dealers will shortly be selling as an accessory. There are two models, costing £91 and £118 (excluding aerial), and each provides 40 channels and operates on the 27 MHz FM band.

Volkswagen debuts

Two revised Volkswagen models, the Polo and the Scirocco, have just gone on sale in Britain. In developing its "mark two" Polo, VW has chosen a squarer, almost estate car shape, giving more passenger and luggage space, while extra elbow room is provided by clever shaping of the doors. The 900cc engine has been uprated to 1050cc, with the same 40bhp but better torque and it still runs on two-star fuel.

The new range comprises four versions, with prices from £3,798 to £4,574, and VW expects to sell 25,000 in the next year.

The Scirocco has been completely rebodied; it is a little bigger overall and roomier, but thanks in part to improved aerodynamics uses up to a quarter less fuel. All models are capable of 100 mph and should return at least 30 mpg in average driving. Cheapest model is the 1478 cc CL at £5,424, while at the top of the range is the 1600cc fuel-injected GTi at £7,125.

Golf

Two Cambridge men make a plum pairing

The draw for the President's Putter, to be played at Rye from January 7-10, has produced a plum in the pairing of Alan Holmes and Michael Reece, both of Cambridge and two of the most experienced players in a strong field of 121 players. Holmes is the holder and Reece the winner in 1976. They have a bye and meet in the second round on the Friday morning.

Ted Dexter, better known in the cricket field, has entered again and will meet N J Grant, again a fellow Light Blue, in the first round on the Thursday afternoon. The draw for the first round is:

TOP HALF: S P Thomas v M E Kitchin, F McL Hayward v G T Duncan, D J Bishop v M C Grint, G J Agate v P M Green, C E Travers v D J Youngman, I Earis v N R M Philcox, R C P Seddon v R J G Hurst, D C Taylor v T M Powell, D V Houlding v T E D Harker, H M J Ritchie v G O Leach, J R B Kent v D G Lucas, D M A Steel v R J E Randall, M Yates v D J Warden, P R Pentecost v G J Collingham, J B L Webster v R J Martin, C J Dean v M F Attenborough, N H F Capstick v J Whitmore, J B Wild v P Dawson, J N Littlewood v R T Gardiner-Hill, M A Jones v A N S Fisher, A de C Aldrich-Blake v P M Wiper, I Armitage v C P Harrison, P J Scarfield v J D C Steel, J R Monroe v B J Streather, D T Sparrow v M E Robson, N M Stephens v P L Osborn, P M Froggatt v M Theyer, G H Foster v J V Wilkes, P A Vickers v T D Askew, M R Butler bye, J D Cruickshank bye, J M Peel bye.

BOTTOM HALF: M F Baigent bye, S M Turnbull bye, A W J Holmes bye, M J Reece bye, D L Baxter v J T L Watson, R P Lawson v W J D Moberly, R Robbins v A D Swanston, E J C Dunn v T M Walker, R G Ames v A H Catchpole, R M S Gibb v W P Cooper, C L A Edginton v C H Churchill, C J Weight v K H A Irwin, W H Barclay v A J G Wright, D Li Mason v D G Choyce, M P J Bonney v A P Stracey, I R H Pattinson v P F Gardiner-Hill, B J Jenkins v J J N Caplan, S A Sharpe v P J R Webb, D C Bonsall v J R Gillum, J M T Warman v N M Williamson, P B K Gracey v A P Goodwin, P A C Cogan v R H Bigley, R F Palmer v J R Burnett, R C Seward v R D Forbes-Watson, A G M Goodrich v P J R Souster, W J Bailhache v C G Nevill, D A C Marr v P J Oliver-Minos, G M Langford v D E F Simons, E R Dexter v N J Grant, Sir M Wilford v P B Merry, R W Devlin v J W L Adams, F D Physick v P J R Bathurst.

New Pro-Am event

Professionals of football and golf will combine in a new Pro-Am Golf Tournament at The Belfry, Sutton Coldfield, on July 31 and August 1 next year. In this venture by the PFA and the PGA, all 92 clubs in the Football League will be invited to enter a team of four in the 36-hole tournament.

Equestrianism

Pyrah wins writers' award

Malcolm Pyrah, the winner of the silver medal in this season's European championship, yesterday received the Personality of the Year Award presented by the British Equestrian Writers' Association.

This provided some consolation for the Nottinghamshire rider, who has been forced out of the Olympia International championships, starting yesterday, as he is still recovering from a broken collar bone received at the Dublin indoor show in November.

Pyrah, runner-up to Germany's Paul Schockemöhle in the European event, also finished second to David Broome in the British money-winners' list, having earned almost £30,000 with his most successful partner, Towerlands Anglezarke.

Lesley McNaught, 17-year-old protege of Ted and Liz Edgar, who won the European junior title, took the Equestrian Writers' junior award, the Vivien Batchelor Trophy.

Racing

Navan looks the sole survivor

Ireland looks set to stage its third race meeting in four days at Navan tomorrow, but prospects for a revival in England are as grim as ever.

The Doncaster and Towcester meetings have already been called off and at Ascot, where there is an inspection this afternoon, the outlook is bleak. Captain Nicholas Beaumont, the clerk of the course, said unless there is a sudden rise in temperature racing will not be possible.

Monday's meetings at Leicester and Kelso are also unlikely to take place as both courses are covered with frozen snow.

Trainer Roger Fisher and jockey David Goulding, reported to the stewards of the Jockey Club last month after Ekbalco's Fighting Fifth Hurdle success, will face its disciplinary committee on Tuesday, January 19.

After Ekbalco's Newcastle victory, the local stewards asked Fisher and Goulding to explain the horse's improved form compared with its running behind Bright Forwarder in the Long Town Hurdle on the same course in October. They refused to accept the explanations and referred the case to Portman Square.

The bookmakers, William Hill, have cut Royal Bond from 8-1 to 7-1 for the King George VI Steeplechase at Kempton Park on Boxing Day.

Naas results

Going: Yielding

12.30: 1, Will Dancer (10-1); † Flowing Card (11-10 fav); † Orient Conquest (6-1). 26 ran. NR: Cyclone, Ellery Queen, Dungourney, Lady Domenne.

1.00: 1, Loyal Fellow (3-1); 2, [illegible] to Shine (3-1); 3, Coolroe King (7-1 fav). 25 ran. NR: Mysterious [illegible].

1.30: 1, Western Sunset (2-1); 3, Fenian Gold (10-1); 3, Duke of Milan (10-1). 21 ran. NR: [illegible]bucco, Brighter London, Garry[illegible] Cross, Overaway.

2.0: 1, Legaun (25-1); 2, Sweet [illegible] (20-1); 3, Cool Anne (25-1); [illegible] Lane (4th), Urbiel Orbi 4-1 [illegible]. 24 ran.

2.30: 1, Prince Peacock (4-1); [illegible] Johns Court (4-4 fav); 3, Barbers[illegible] Castle (8-1). 18 ran.

3.0: 1, Peyrix Pass (4-1); 2, Duke of Alva (7-4 fav); 3, Lillays Choice (4-1). 13 ran. NR: Bonnie Son, [illegible]'s Pet.

3.30: 1, Consultation (4-1); 2, Cold [illegible] (11-4); 3, For-Kil (10-1); [illegible] Parade, 2-1 fav. 24 ran. NR: [illegible]'s Double.

Taking a risk in troublesome times to make a dream come true

Arbuthnot puts training to test

The name of David Arbuthnot will appear in the list of those given licences to train under Jockey Club rules for the first time next year. However, while his name may be unfamiliar to the majority of racing followers his face is not to those of us who patrol the racecourse day in, day out: he has spent the last six years assisting Fulke Johnson Houghton at Blewbury and during that time he has become almost part and parcel of the everyday racing scene.

Little though he realized his earlier years spent with George Fairbairn, Ken Oliver, Toby Balding and Brian Marshall, were clearly destined to help pave the way for him to become the proud owner of Eastbury Cottage stables in the little Berkshire village of Eastbury, which straddles the Newbury-Lambourn road.

I found him there yesterday coping admirably with all the day-to-day problems of training racehorses—regardless whether they be jumpers or Flat, they still need looking after 24 hours a day—when snow, frost and ice tends to make life that much more hazardous.

Some might describe setting up shop at the height of a recession foolhardy or just plain madness; Arbuthnot clearly does not even though the price that he has paid has been high and the risk that he has taken correspondingly deep: "I loved my time with Fulke but recession or not the moment had come to have a go myself, and now that I am doing it I am so much happier,"

That contentment showed in the eyes and the voice of this 28-year-old bachelor as he showed me his horses, his yard and his house with evident pride. Here was the king of his own castle, a dream come true. Maybe only nine horses are there already but they are the apple of his eye and there are more in the pipeline. In fact, he expects to start next season with a string of 16.

It is these early days that are the testing times for the likes of Arbuthnot and no one is more aware of the problems that lie ahead than he. He admits, with admirable candour, that "one has got two or three years grace in which you must prove yourself, have winners and create business; otherwise it will be out."

His bank, of course, has underpinned the whole operation. To the uninitiated, let alone those conversant with the problems, the cost of setting up as a trainer these days must almost be comparable with scaling Everest. Yet deep down I feel that given the luck that any trainer needs, this young man has it in him to climb the highest peaks.

His father, Sir Hugh, is currently the master and huntsman of the Jedforest Hounds. Before that he was the master and huntsman of the Duke of Buccleugh's Hounds, and before that the Cotswold and the Ludlow.

Not surprising, against that backcloth David Arbuthnot's early life was spent riding, hunting, point to pointing and generally living among the elements before he even got the racing bug. It is a background that can only provide the sort of adventurous spirit that will ensure success in racing.

In racing there have been glaring examples in recent years of people starting from scratch with a handful of horses. Peter Walwyn, Barry Hills and Michael Stoute are names that Arbuthnot throws at you. The success that they have enjoyed are now his inspiration.

For the beginner one difficulty is obviously recruiting owners. Another is buying yearlings that you like and want in a highly competitive market. Always the number of horses promised seldom matches the number that eventually arrive for such is human nature.

Among those who are currently helping Arbuthnot's career as a trainer to achieve lift-off are Mrs C. Y. Bennett; her daughter, Mrs Dick Crutchley; Dr and Mrs John Hobby; George Ward and Lady Scott. They all had and still have horses in training with Fulke Johnson Houghton at Blewbury and it was there that they got to know Arbuthnot, appreciate his qualities and decide to try to help him on his way. "Others," says Arbuthnot, "simply say that once you show that you can do it they will send you something. So you have got to prove yourself. It is perfectly fair, but nevertheless, expensive at the time.

"Buying this yard was in the seventies (thousands that is); then there was the tack, buying yearlings on spec, hiring and just living and so on and so on and so on."

If the dedication of Arbuthnot and his secretary, Di Yeomans, who is more like a Girl Friday than a secretary, means anything, then success will be theirs. No two could be working harder today and the reason for that is Arbuthnot's insistence that when you start you simply have to keep prices competitive and still do a good job. His basic charge for keep is £75 a week as against anything between £100 and £110 which top trainers in the area charge.

Arbuthnot is doing a good job if the look of the horses, currently sheltered in Eastbury Cottage stables, are any criterion. Indeed, it could be said that they are a walking advertisement for the Nutripet nut, not that I knew anything about it before I went there. It is food relatively new to the equine manager and the mastermind of George Jackson, who, together with his wife, has had horses in training with Fred Winter, among others, for a number of years. Arbuthnot is convinced that the quality and price of Australian, Canadian and Scottish oats have deteriorated or escalated to such an effect recently that Nutripet nuts are the answer to modern feeding of racehorses.

As far as Arbuthnot is concerned the proof of the pudding or, to be more precise, the results of that answer are now just around the corner. John Reid, Steve Cauthen and Dennis McKay are the jockeys he intends calling upon when and if they are available in 1982 and he could not have chosen better allies, no matter how well the horse is on the day and the eventual result is invariably in the hands of the pilot. In that respect a trainer's life is one of nerves, but if Arbuthnot was living on his nerves yesterday I did not detect them even though his bank manager may have been breathing down his neck.

Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

". . . DEPART from evil and do good; seek peace, and pursue it."—Psalm 34 : 14.

BIRTHS

BLANDY.—On December 16th, at the Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead, to Jane and John—a son (Roland Edmunds), a brother for Hilary.
BRYANT.—On December 12th, to Julia (nee Favell) and Robin—a son (Frank Ingram).
BYRNE.—On 7th December, 1981, at Epsom District Hospital, to Charlotte (nee Boydell) and Peter—a son (Patrick William George).
CATT.—On December 8th, in Bergen Op Zoom, Netherlands, to Anne (nee Madden) and John—a daughter (Georgina Madeleine), a sister for Victoria.
COOKE.—On December 14th, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Roderick and Christine—a son (Edward Arthur).
GEE.—On December 14th, at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, to Jane (nee Watson) and John—a son (Benjamin John).
GELL.—On December 14th, at Lampasas, Texas, to Erica (nee [illegible]) and Paul—a daughter (Nicola Alison Deborah), a sister for Patrick and Justin.
HOSKYNS.—On 15th December, to Alison and George—a son.
LEVY.—On December 10th, to Elizabeth and Edward—a son (Charles Edward Andrew).
LOUTIT.—On December 14th in Penzance, to Annette (nee English) and Andrew—a son (Magnus John).
NAYLOR.—On December 8th, at Queen Charlotte's, to Cindy (nee Legg) and Richard—a son (Charles), a brother for Richard and George.
NEDAS.—On December 16th, at 27 Welbeck St, to Suzanne (nee Quastel) and Jeffrey—a daughter (Lucinda Elisabeth), a sister for Georgina and Amelia.
MUNRO OF FOULIS.—On December 11th, at the Ross Memorial Hospital, Dingwall, Scotland, to Sarah (nee Duckworth) and Hector—a daughter (Aline Angela).
PERRY.—On December 15th, in Beverly Hills, to Josefine (nee Black) and David—a son (Dominic Robert), a brother for Matthew.
WRIGHT.—On 12th December in Hong Kong, to Malcolm and Sylvia Wright (nee McClintock)—a daughter.

BIRTHDAY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to R.C. Lots of love from J.R.
SPEARS. Happy 10th birthday Nicholas, from Mum, Dad, Dominic and nannie.

MARRIAGE

GOLDEN WEDDING

PYLE: DRYDEN. On 18th December, 1931, at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Henry Walter Pyle to Margaret Sheila Dryden.

DEATHS

BEZODIS.—On 4th December at Folkestone, Charles, formerly of Tunbridge Wells, aged 94.
BOND.—On December 16, 1981, *Rose Elizabeth (Betty), widow* of Sir Ralph Bond, CBE and mother of Elizabeth and Rosemary. Cremation at Putney Vale, Monday, December 21 at 3.15. Family flowers only.
CASSIDY.—On 17th December, 1981, peacefully at Knowler House, Stelling Minnis, Canterbury, Phyllis Mary, widow of Dr F. L. Cassidy and daughter of the late Rev. A. C. Havilland, beloved mother of Paul and Oonagh and adored grandmother. Funeral at 12 noon on 24th December at Barham Crematorium. Flowers to C. W. Lyons, Funeral Directors, *Canterbury.* Telephone Canterbury 63508.
COCKBURN.—On December 15 at St Finbarr's hospital, Cork, Claud, deeply loved by his wife Patricia, and his sons Alexander, Andrew and Patrick. Funeral service at St. Mary's Collegiate Church, Youghal, Co Cork on Friday, December 18 at 3 pm.
COYLE.—On Tuesday, 15th December, 1981, suddenly, Peter Coyle, of Earls Court, London. Funeral at Putney Vale Crematorium, Tuesday, 22nd December, at 3 p.m. No flowers please. Donations, if desired to *Brompton Hospital, Fulham*
HAINES. — On December 13th, 1981, suddenly, Commander R Gregory Haines, Royal Navy retired, beloved husband of Eugenie, and father of Fiona, Gayle, Nigel, Lucinda and Anthea.
HEXT.—On December 16th, of Rodhayes, Pinhoe, Exeter, David Yeatman Hext, aged 77 years. Much loved husband of Jean. Funeral private.
HOPE-JONES.—Suddenly in December 17, 1981, at home, Marcia (Peg) widow of William, most dearly loved. Funeral Service at *Christ Church, Shamley* Green on Tuesday, December 22 at 11.30 am.
JAMES.—On December 17, 1981 Leslie Compton, aged 76 years of Wendover House, Gayton, Northampton. Private cremation service at Milton Crematorium followed by a service in St Mary's Church, Gayton on Tuesday, December 22 at 2 pm. Flowers to Ann Bonham & Son, Northampton.
JIGGENS.—On December 12th, in Cornwall, Ruby, beloved wife of the late Charles.
LILLYWHITE, ALICE.—On December *10th at her home in Liverton*, Devon. Beloved wife of John and mother of Jack, Joyce and Barbara.
LITTLE.—On December 13, 1981, suddenly, Ian Little, Lt-Col RAMC, MBE, beloved husband of Molly (nee Mawson). Service at the RAMC chapel, Millbank, on Tuesday, December 22 at 2 pm, followed by cremation at Golders Green Crematorium. Enquiries to W Garstin and Sons Ltd, 01-935 4865.
MATHIAS.—On 16th December, the Reverend Edward Lanfranc Morgan, aged 72, at Sudbury, *Suffolk. Funeral at Gestingthorpe*, at 11 a.m., Wednesday, 23rd December.
MEYRICK.—On December 14th, peacefully at home, in her 98th year, Gwendoline Anna (Rosser) widow of Reverend B J Meyrick, beloved mother of Elra and mother-in-law of George, and loving mamgu of Rhodri and Artanrhod Pazzi Axworthy. Funeral at St. Alban's Cathedral on Friday, December 18th, at 12 noon. Committal at St Paul's Church, Sketty, Swansea, on Saturday, December 19th, at 12.30 p.m. No flowers please, but *donations if desired to* family parish churches.
MYLNE.—On December 12th, at Rokeby, Malvern Place, Cheltenham, Miriam Bay Mylne (nee Brown-Constable), formerly of Cudnall Street, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham. Funeral Service at Cheltenham crematorium chapel on Monday, December 21st, at 2 p.m. Enquiries to Selim Smith & Co, Cheltenham. Telephone 25383.
NEEDHAM. — On Sunday, 13th December, 1981, peacefully at Spring Cottage, Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire, Hubert William, aged 87 years, formerly of Cape Town. Beloved husband of the late Eunice Vivienne, father of Jennifer and David, and grandfather of Helen, Arnet and Vanessa.
RUSSELL.—On December 15, 1981 Graham Herbert, DFC aged 64, suddenly at home, "The Grunting Hog". Greatly loved husband of Esmé, father of Ruth and Brenda and devoted grandfather to his six grandchildren. Service at All Saints Church, St Ives, Cambs., on Tuesday December 22 at 10.00 am followed by private cremation. No flowers by request. Donations to Papworth Hospital Cardiac Research Fund, c/o National Westminster Bank, St Ives, Cambs.
SEWARD, ERIC JOHN, K.B.E.—On November 30th, 1981, after a long illness, at his home 2420 Rawson, 1636 Olivos, Buenos Aires, Argentina. Dearly loved husband of Ella Maud and father of Graham, Christopher and Peter.
STREET. — On December 14th, peacefully, after a life full of courage and humour, Ronald John, M.A. Cantab., aged 55, former headmaster of Southmoor Prep. School, Abingdon, and of New House School, Abingdon. Funeral at Broxbourne Parish Church, Herts., at 1.30 p.m., Tuesday, December 22nd. Donations to Saint Hilda Research.
WHITTEN, Maurice George, on December 11th, peacefully at home in his 90th year. Wise and beloved husband of Kay, dearly loved by his children and eleven grandchildren. "To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die." Funeral service at Lodsworth, 3 p.m., 21st December. Family flowers but gifts to St. Peter's Church, Lodsworth preferred. Enquiries to L. F. Linnell & Son, Midhurst (073 081) 3264.
WILLIAMS.—On 16th December, 1981, peacefully in hospital, Nora Joyce, aged 65 years. Beloved wife of the late Peter Graeme, loving mother of Jane. Funeral service at Eltham Crematorium on Wednesday, 23rd December at 10.45 a.m. Flowers and enquiries to W. Hodges and Company, 37 Quakers Hall Lane, Sevenoaks. Tel Sevenoaks 54457.

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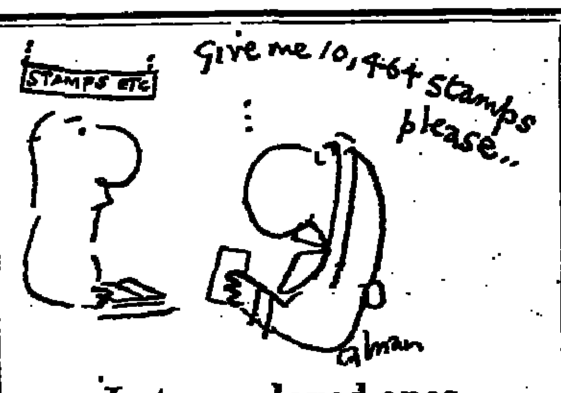
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BOURNEMOUTH, 30 Superior Flatlets. Excellent position. Turnover. Retirement. £130,000 Frhd.—Tel: (0202) 767984.

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA
RIYADH UNIVERSITY
RIYADH UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE OF MEDICINE
RIYADH, SAUDI ARABIA

Posts in Medical Technology and Nursing at the King Khalid Hospital of Riyadh University.
Applications from suitably qualified Technicians and Nurses are invited for the following posts:

LABORATORY:
Bacteriology, Virology, Serology, Parasitology, Biochemistry, Haematology, Blood Bank, Histopathology, Cytology and Radioimmunoassey.
X-RAY TECHNOLOGY
STERILIZATION
PHYSIOTHERAPY
RESPIRATORY TECHNICIAN
MEDICAL RECORDS CLERKS
NURSING:
Headnurses, Supervisors, BSN graduates with 3 or more years experience.
SPECIAL SKILLS:
OPERATING ROOM
DELIVERY ROOM
NURSERY
INTENSIVE CARE
RENAL DIALYSIS

Metrons with BSN and MA with 3 or more years experience.
Monthly salaries range from SR 4,200/- for AIMLS to SR 10,300/- for FIMLS plus 15 years of experience (one pound is about 6.5 SR) similar scale for other qualifications.
Free furnished housing provided. Transportation allowance SR 300/- per month. 45 days vacation per year with return economy class air tickets to place of residence. Weekly working hours of 40 plus 15 on call. Additional on call paid for separately.

Interviews will be held at Saudi Arabian Educational Office, 29 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8QB, Tel: 01-245 9944 or 01-235 2404 during the period December 18 to December 22nd, 1981. Please contact Mrs. Whiteley for appointments.

CONTRACTS & TENDERS

FOR SALE BY TENDER

LAND AT HALL ROAD/BEVERLEY ROAD

KINGSTON UPON HULL

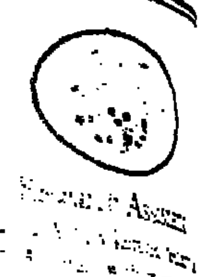
Tenders are invited for the purchase of the freehold in land for which deemed outline planning permission has been granted, situated on the main northern approach to the City with easy access into the City and to the market town of Beverley and beyond, comprising:

Approx. 6¼ acres residential land.
Approx. 1¾ acres with planning permission for residential/hotel/motel.
Approx. 1½ acres residential/shopping complex.

CLOSING DATE FOR TENDERS IS 15th FEBRUARY, 1982.

Tender forms and further details from:
Humberside County Council,
County Estates & Valuation Officer,
Manor Road, Beverley,
North Humberside HU17 7BU.





Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

12.30 News After Noon: with Richard Whitmore and Moira Stuart. The weather prognostications come from Michael Fish; 12.57 Regional news (London and SE only; Financial Report and news headlines with sub-titles); 1.00 Pebble Mill at One. Star guest is Professor David Bellamy. Presenting the prizes to the Green Cross Code competition winners is the Secretary of State for Transport; 1.45 The Flumps; Grandfather's Birthday narrated by Gay Soper (r); 2.00 When the Bough Breaks. The last in the series presented by John Thaw for parents who think they mistreat their children (r); 2.12 Closedown; 3.15 Cadwynau yn y Meddwl. A poem commemorating the death of Martin Luther King; 3.53 Regional news (not London).

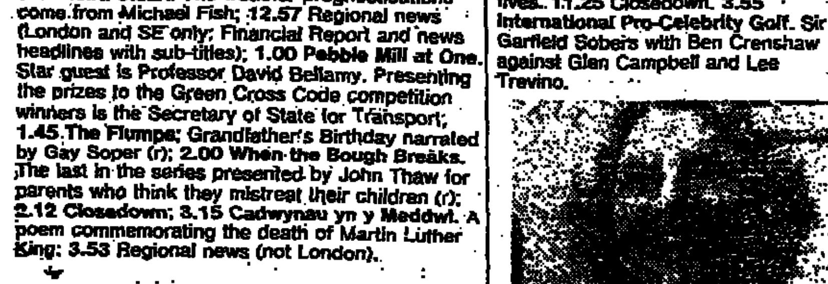
3.55 Play School. For the under-fives (shown earlier on BBC2).
4.20 Cartoon: Mighty Mouse in the Wolf (r).
4.25 Jackanory. Willie Rushton reads a Winnie the Pooh story (r).
4.40 Cartoon: Captain Caveman in The Disappearing Elephant Mystery.
4.50 Crackerjack. Fun and games with The Krankies and Stu Francis.
5.35 The Amazing Adventures of Morph introduced by Tony Hart (r).
5.40 News read by Richard Baker; 6.00 Regional news magazines; 6.22 Nationwide including, at 6.45 Sportswide.
7.00 Team Disco. From London's Hammersmith Palais, Peter Powell presents the final of the National Association of Youth Clubs Team Disco Dance Championships.
7.45 Whatever Happened to the Likely Lads? Bob goes to a funeral.
8.15 Terry and June look forward to an expenses-free weekend away.
8.45 Points of View with Barry Took and readers' letters.

9.00 News.
9.25 Kessler. The last in the series about the hunt for a former war criminal.
10.20 International Show Jumping from the Grand Hall, Olympia.
11.00 On the Town. London entertainments.
11.30 News headlines and weather.
11.35 Film: Arabella (1967) starring Terry-Thomas, Virna Lisi and Margaret Rutherford. Terry Thomas plays four parts and in each of them he is duped by the beautiful Arabella (Virna Lisi). Ends at 1.05.

BBC1 VARIATIONS: CYMRU/WALES 12.57 pm-1.00 News of Wales. 1.45-2.00 Corachod. 3.15-3.55 Closedown. 4.50-5.20 Codename Icarus (3) 5.20-5.40 Stop Sieffre. 6.00-6.22 Wales Today. 7.00-7.30 Heddiw. 7.30-8.00 Fo A Fe (5). 8.00-8.45 Team Disco. 11.00-11.50 Week In Week out. 11.50-11.51 News headlines. 11.51-1.25 am Moviola: The Scarlett O'Hara War. 1.25 Weather. SCOTLAND 12.55 pm-1.00 The Scottish news. 3.15-3.55 Closedown. 6.00-6.22 Reporting Scotland. 11.00-11.30 The Beechgrove Garden. 11.30-11.35 News and weather. 1.05 am Close. NORTHERN IRELAND 12.57 pm-1.00 Northern Ireland news. 3.15-3.53 Closedown. 3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland news. 6.00-6.22 Scene around Six. 11.00-11.30 Spotlight. 11.30-11.35 News and weather. 1.05 am Close. ENGLAND 6.00 pm-6.22 Regional Magazines. 11.00-11.30 East — Weekend. London and the South East — On the Town. Midlands — Good Company. North — Sign of the Times (3). North East — Coast to Coast. North West — Look Out, He's Behind You. South — Eight from Ten. South West — West Country Tales. West — Talisman. 1.05 am Close.

BBC 2

11.00 Play School. For the under-fives. 11.25 Closedown. 3.55 International Pro-Celebrity Golf. Sir Garfield Sobers with Ben Crenshaw against Glen Campbell and Lee Trevino.



Elsie Randolph (BBC2 8.10)

4.45 War at Sea: Battleship Bismarck. The story of how the pride of the German Navy was stalked and sunk. Presented by Ludovic Kennedy (r).
5.30 Film: Tarzan's Desert Mystery* (1943) starring Johnny Weissmuller.
6.40 Hold Down a Chord. Folk guitar lessons from John Pearse.
6.55 News with sub-titles.
7.00 Oxford Road Show. Opinion and entertainment live from the Manchester studios.
7.40 In the Country. Phil Drabble looks behind the scenes at the small Donnington Brewery in the Cotswolds.
8.10 Playhouse: Dancing Country by Peter Buckman. The machinations of an old-age pensioners' dancing club. Starring Elsie Randolph, Nat Jackley and John Judkin.

9.00 The Mike Harding Show. The last in the repeat series featuring the diminutive Lancastrian comic. Recorded at the Grand Theatre, Blackpool.
9.30 In Transit. A behind-the-scenes look at the making of a West Indian musical from the first day of rehearsals to the opening night.
10.20 World's End. The last in the series about the customers of The Mulberry Pub located in a London village.
10.50 Newsnight. World news plus an extended look at one of the stories that made today's headlines.
11.35 Friday Night . . . Saturday Morning presented by Jane Walmsley. Her guests are actress Maureen Lipman, Jonathan King, Malcolm McLaren, the founder of the Sex Pistols, Kevin Mulhern, singer Sue Wilkinson, Russell Davies and author D. M. Thomas. Ends at 12.30.

ITV/LONDON

9.30 Cartoon: Shoefly. 9.40 The World We Live In. Water shortage and pollution. 10.05 Echo of the Wild. John Aspinall's free range zoo (r). 11.05 Welcome Back, Kotter. Comic escapades in an American high school. 11.30 The Further Adventures of Oliver Twist. Dodger slips back into his dipping ways (r). 12.00 A Handful of Songs sung by Keith Field and Maria Morgan for the very young. 12.10 Once Upon a Time. Mark Wynter tells the story of The Wishing Pond. 12.30 Looks Familiar (r). 1.00 News. 1.20 Thames news. 1.30 Taff Acre. The last episode of the series and the Johnsons have a tea party. 2.00 After Noon Plus. Christmas presents if money was no object. 2.45 Film: Nowhere to Hide (1977) starring Lee Van Cliff. Government Marshal Scanlan has to protect a mobster before he testifies against his former colleagues.

4.15 Cartoon: Tweety Pie in Tweet Zoo.
4.20 Storybook International. Riches or Happiness narrated by Isla Blair.
4.45 Freetime. Mick Robertson with ideas for spare time during the Christmas holidays.
5.15 White Light. The problems of living away from home.
5.45 News.
6.00 Thames News with Andrew Gardner and Rita Carter.
6.30 Thames Sport. Derek Thompson and Susan King with news of the sporting fixtures in and around London over the weekend.
7.00 Film: Planet of the Apes (1967) starring Charlton Heston and Roddy McDowell. Science fiction story about a group of American astronauts who travel back 2000 years in time and crash land on an unidentified planet. One of their number dies and the remainder are hunted and captured by horse-riding gorillas.

9.00 The Gentle Touch. Det-Insp. Maggie Forbes investigates the murder of a cafe owner. The only possible witness is a young girl heroin addict.
10.00 News.
10.30 Soap. Another episode of bizarre comedy featuring the Tates and the Campbells.
11.00 The London Programme presented by Andrew Phillips. London's Teenage Tramps. Since Johnny Go Home first exposed the problem of youngsters coming to London in search of jobs their plight has become much worse. The London Programme tonight reports on the hundreds of teenagers who are unable to find casual work or a bed for the night — and the increasing danger of their being drawn into vice and crime.
11.35 Police 5. Shaw Taylor tells us how we can assist the constabulary in their fight against crime.
11.45 Strumpet City. Episode seven and the Dublin strike seems to be folding. Either the men go back to work or go to fight in Flanders.
12.45 Close with Claire Rayner reading a love poem.

Katherine Helmond is Jessica Tate in Soap (ITV 10.30 pm)

CHOICE

● For this week's IN THE COUNTRY (BBC 2, 7.40 pm) Phil Drabble journeys to the Donnington Brewery in the Cotswolds. The premises date from the Middle Ages when it was a cloth mill. During that industry's decline it was converted to a corn mill and the machinery installed then is still in use today. The owner of these picturesque and profitable premises is Claude Arkell, the third generation of country brewers whose concern for his business is balanced by his love of the local landscape. He is proud of his brewery, as well he might be, and thinks it is 'a piece of English history'. Mr Drabble goes behind the scenes of the brewery with Mr Arkell and meets the twelve-strong workforce and the 17 landlords who sell the end product. Although he is the boss Claude Arkell is always first in and last away because the brewery is virtually in his garden. His mellow Cotswold stone house is just across a lawn boasting a mill pond with ornamental waterfowl and rainbow trout. Mr Drabble's bucolic burr combines perfectly with the hop-laden atmosphere to make a highly viewable programme about a very lucky man

● WHITE LIGHT (Thames, 5.15 pm), the programme for young people, looks into the problem of their leaving home. A very attractive proposition it may seem at first to teenagers wishing to spread their wings but the harsh realities of coping by oneself soon becomes all too apparent. Giving advice to would-be nest fliers are Marjorie Proops of the Daily Mirror and Anne-Marie Reynolds of Centrepoint, the organisation that aids lonely, homeless young people

● YOU THE JURY (Radio 4, 11.05 am) is an interesting series in which an audience of jurors give their verdict on a debate relevant to an issue of the day. Peter Jay is the chairman and the motion is 'Discrimination on Grounds of Homosexuality Should be made Illegal'. Proposing the motion is Lord Beaumont of Whitley and opposing is Michael Simmons. Both of them are allowed to call witnesses supporting their point-of-view and they have the right to cross-examine anybody called. To measure the persuasiveness of the advocacy the jurors are polled before as well as after the debate.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing
6.10 Farming Today
6.30 Today
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament
9.00 News
9.05 Desert Island Discs. Castaway: author Harry Patterson
9.45 Ebdon's England.
10.00 News
10.02 International Assignment
10.30 Daily Service
10.45 Morning Story: "Jackie the Jibber" by Brian Glanville
11.00 News
11.05 You the Jury
11.50 Bird of the Week: The Robin
12.00 News
12.02 You and Yours
12.27 The Senior Partner (series)
12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One
1.40 The Archers
2.00 News
2.02 Woman's Hour from Northern Ireland
3.00 News
3.02 Play: "Hal" by Charlotte Hastings
4.05 Poetry Please!
4.15 Herbs, Useful Plants (last in series) Grow Your Own
4.45 Story Time: "Tell Sally" by Magda Szabo (5)
5.00 PM: News Magazine
5.55 Weather
6.00 News and Financial Report
6.30 Going Places
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers
7.20 Pick of the Week †
8.10 Profile
8.30 Any Questions?
9.15 Letter from America
9.30 Kaleidoscope
9.59 Weather
10.00 The World Tonight
10.35 Week Ending †
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "The Orchid Trilogy" (9)
11.15 The Financial World Tonight
11.30 Today in Parliament
11.45 Glyn Worship with BBC Sound Archives
12.00 News and Weather
VHF: 6.25 Weather. 10.30 Listen with Mother. 5.50 PM (continued). 11.00 Study on 4

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert. Strauss, Mozart, Chopin, Dvorak; records.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert (continued).
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer. Kodaly; records.†
10.00 Songs and Chamber Music. Recital: Couperin, Tippett, Purcell, Bach.†
10.55 Utah Symphony Orchestra. Concert: Barber, Saeverud, Copland.†
11.35 Cello and Piano. Recital: Myaskovsky, Bridge.†
12.20 Midday Concert. BBC Northern Symphony Orchestra concert. Part 1: Wagner, Lutoslawski.†
1.00 News.
1.05 Midday Concert. Part 2: Beethoven.†
1.55 Sergio Abreu. Guitar recital: Dowland, Britten.†
2.25 Takacs Quartet. String Quartet recital: Bartok, Dvorak.†
3.15 Williamson and Crosse. Chamber music and Song recital.†
4.00 Choral Evensong in Blackburn Cathedral.†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
6.55 Play it Again. Preview.
7.00 Die Meistersinger von Nurnberg. Act One. Recorded at the 1981 Bayreuth Festival.†
8.45 Poetry 81. The 1981 National Poetry Competition: results.
9.30 Music in our Time. Works by four American composers.†
10.30 The Old Magician by Peter Barnes
11.00 News.
11.05 Purcell on record.†
VHF 11.20pm Open University.

Radio 2

5.00 Ray Moore† 7.30 Terry Wogan† 10.00 Jimmy Young† 12.00 John Dunn† 2.00 Ed Stewart† 4.00 David Hamilton† 5.45 News. 6.00 David Symonds† 8.00 Sequence Time† 8.45 Friday Night is Music Night† 10.00 Marks in his Diary (series). 10.30 The Bing Crosby Show. 11.05 Brian Matthew† from midnight. 1.00 Truckers' Hour† 2.00 You and the Night and the Music†

Radio 1

5.00 As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Dave Lee Travis. 2.00 Paul Burnett. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable. 7.00 Andy Peebles. 10.00 The Friday Rock Show† 12.00 Close. VHF Radios 1 and 2 5.00 With Radio 2. 10.00 With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00am With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648 kHz, 463m) at the following times (GMT) 6.00 Newsdesk 7.00 World News 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 7.30 Guitar Workshop 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme. 8.00 World News 8.09 Reflections 8.15 Divertimento 8.30 Frank Muir Goes Into 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead 9.45 Music Now. 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme 10.30 Business Matter. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain 11.15 In the Meantime. 11.25 Ulster Newsletter 11.30 Meridian 12.00 Radio Newsreel 12.15pm Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours News Summary 1.30 What Makes a Criminal? 2.15 Letterbox 2.30 John Peel 3.00 Radio Newsreel 3.15 Outlook 4.00 World News 4.09 Commentary 4.15 Science in Action 4.45 The World Today 5.00 World News 5.09 Just A Minute 8.00 World News 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours News Summary 9.15 Music Now 9.45 Letter from London 9.55 Wave-guide 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today 10.25 The Week in Wales. 10.30 Financial News 10.40 Reflections 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary 11.15 From the Weeklies 11.30 Michael Strogoff. 12.00 World News 12.09 News about Britain 12.15am Radio Newsreel 12.30 About Britain 12.45 Sarah and Company 1.15 Outlook 1.15 The French Miniature 2.00 World News 2.09 Review of the British Press 2.15 Network UK 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 World News 3.09 News about Britain 3.15 The World Today 3.30 Three Centuries of Italian Opera 4.00 Newsdesk 5.45 The World Today

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz Radio 3 VHF 90-92.5MHz, MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m LBC MF 1152khz/261m, VHF 97.3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95.8MHz BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94.9MHz World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

ULSTER

As Thames except: 1.20-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.45 Film: The Young Pioneers' Christmas. After the death of their infant son, Molly and David Beaton, young pioneers in the Dakota Territory of the 1870s, face a sorrowful Christmas. Starring Roger Kern, Linda Purl and Robert Hayes. 4.12-4.15 Ulster News. 5.15-5.45 Survival. 7.00 Film: Living Free. The story of Elsa, the world's best-known lioness, and her three cubs. Starring Nigel Davenport, Susan Hampshire and Geoffrey Keen. 8.30-9.00 Benson. 10.30 Witness. 10.35 Lou Grant. 11.30 Bedtime.

SOUTHERN

As London except: 9.30 Untamed World. 9.55 Poetry of Landscape. 10.10 Story Hour. 11.10 New Fred and Barney Show. 11.35-12.00 Christmas Star. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25-4.15 Film: Captain's Courageous (Karl Malden) A rich, spoilt boy is rescued at sea by rough and tough fishermen. 5.15-5.45 Here's Boomer. 6.00 Day by Day. 6.00 Scene South East. 6.30 Entertainers: Elkie Brooks. 7.00-9.00 Film: Two Rode Together (James Stewart) Trouble as a wagon train enters Comanche country. 10.35 Film: Counterfeit Traitor (William Holden) A double agent at work. 1.05am Weather followed by Rome Comes To Canterbury.

ATV

As London except: Starts 9.25 am European Folk Tales. 9.40 Something Different. 9.55 Lost Islands. 10.20 It's a Musical World. 11.10-12.00 Cities: Berlin. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Young Pioneers' Christmas (Roger Kern). Grief-stricken couple help a neighbour. 5.15-5.45 Here's Boomer. 6.00 ATV Today. 7.00-9.00 Film: Duel at Diablo (Sidney Poitier, James Garner). White and black men fight together as Apaches attack. 10.30 Christmas at WKRP. 11.00 News. 11.05 Film: In the Steps of a Dead Man (Skye Aubrey). Army deserter talks his way into the lives of a couple who recently lost their son in military service. 12.40 am Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO * BLACK AND WHITE: (r) REPEAT.

WESTWARD

As London except: Starts 9.40 Sesame Street. 10.40 Rocket Robin Hood. 11.05 Spy Extraordinary. 11.35-12.00 Hands. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Young Pioneers' Christmas (Roger Kern). Grief-stricken couple help a neighbour. 5.15-5.45 Adventures of Niko. 6.00 Westward Diary. 7.00-9.00 Film: Operation Crossbow (George Peppard, Tom Courtnay). Search for Hitler's rocket sites. 10.32 News. 10.35 Paris by Night. 11.00 Film: Nanny (Bette Davis, William Dix). Suspense thriller of a nanny with a dark secret*. 12.35 am Faith For Life. 12.41 Closedown.

CHANNEL

As London except: Starts 12.30 pm-1.00 Looks Familiar. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Young Pioneers' Christmas (Roger Kern). Grief-stricken couple help a neighbour. 5.15-5.45 Adventures of Niko. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.35 Brown Study. 7.00-9.00 Film: Operation Crossbow (George Peppard). Search for Hitler's rocket sites. 10.28 News. 10.35 Paris by night. 11.00 Film: Nanny (Bette Davis). Suspense thriller of a nanny with a dark secret*. 12.35 am Closedown.

BORDER

As London except: 9.30 Larry the Lamb. 9.45 Sesame Street. 10.45 Bailey's Bird. 11.10-12.00 Young Ramsay. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Intruder (Jack Hawkins). An ex-Army officer finds a wartime subordinate rifling his desk. 5.15-5.45 Bygones. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.30 That's Hollywood. 7.00 Film: Three Musketeers (Oliver Reed, Michael York). 10.30 Wintersport. 11.00 Golfing Greats: Sam Snead. 11.30 News. 11.33 Closedown.

GRANADA

As London except: 9.30 Animated Classics: Moby Dick. 10.15 Last Of The Wild. 10.35 Bailey's Bird. 11.00-12.00 Sesame Street. 1.20-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.00 Live From Two. 2.45 Scruples: Comedy. 3.40-4.15 Sail Amsterdam. 5.15-5.45 Here's Boomer. 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.30 Kick Off. 7.00-9.00 Film: Three Musketeers (Oliver Reed, Michael York). 10.30 Week On Friday. 11.00 Roots. 11.30 Film: Dracula AD 1972 (Peter Cushing) The Chelsea party set meet the Count. 1.15am Closedown.

SCOTTISH

As London except: 9.30 am Cry of the Gull. 9.55 History of the Car. 10.20 Story Hour 11.10 Picasso. 11.55-12.00 Cartoon. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45 Cartoon. 2.50-4.15 Film: Magnificent Magical Magnet of Santa Mesa (Michael Burns). Absent-minded scientist invents a magic magnet and causes chaos. 5.15-5.45 Gaffer. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.25 Sports Extra. 6.45 Hear Here. 7.00 Benson. 7.30-9.00 Film: Street Fighter (Charles Bronson, James Coburn). A drifter and a hustler set up illegal street fights. 10.30 Ways and Means. 11.00 That's Hollywood. 11.30 Curling. 12.15 am Late Call. 12.20 Closedown.

ANGLIA

As London except: 9.30 am Larry The Lamb. 9.40 Christmas Star. 10.05 Cities: New York. 10.55 Darts. 11.50-12.00 Wattoo Wattoo. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25-4.15 Film: Harold Lloyd's World of Comedy*. Compilation of silent comedy extracts from the 1920s and 1930s. 5.15-5.45 Mork and Mindy. 6.00 About Anglia. 7.00-9.00 Film: Assassination Bureau (Oliver Reed, Diana Rigg). Journalist investigates an outbreak of killings. 11.00 Members Only Christmas Quiz. 11.30 Film: Viking Queen (Don Murray) Viking queen advocates peace, which causes unrest among her belligerent family. 1.10 am England's Nazareth.

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 9.30am Larry The Lamb. 9.40 Christmas Star. 10.05 Young Ramsay. 11.00 Puppy Who Wanted A Boy. 11.25 Welcome Back Kotter. 11.55-12.00 Wattoo Wattoo. 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.45 Film: Quest For Love (Tom Bell, Joan Collins). After an explosion a physicist finds himself living in a different world. 5.15-5.45 Here's Boomer. 6.00 Calendar. 6.30 Sport. 7.00-9.00 Film: Three Musketeers (Oliver Reed, Michael York). 10.30 Bowls. 11.00 Film: Crescendo. Stefanie Powers goes to stay with the composer's widow and finds herself in mortal danger. 12.45am Closedown.

TYNE TEES

As London except: Starts 9.20 am Good Word. 9.25 News 9.30 Stars on Ice. 9.55 Coral World 10.40 Cartoon 10.50 Harrison's Yukon 11.20-12.00 It's Hercules the Wrestling Bear 1.20 pm-1.30 News, Lookaround 2.45-4.15 Film: Big Job (Sidney James, Sylvia Sims). "Carry On" humour but with a different gang. 5.15-5.45 Clifton House Mystery 6.00 News 6.02 Sportstime. 6.30 Northern Life. 7.00-9.00 Film, Hot Rock (Robert Redford, George Segal). Two men commit an almost impossible theft 10.30 News. 10.32 Friday Live 12.00 Superstar Profile: Woody Allen. 12.30 am Poet's Corner. 12.35 Closedown

GRAMPIAN

As London except: Starts 9.40 am First Thing. 9.45 It's Hercules the Wrestling Bear 10.35 Target the Impossible. 11.00 Ireland of Welcomes. 11.50-12.00 Larry the Lamb. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Make Me an Offer (Peter Finch, Adrienne Corri). Comedy in the antiques world 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00 North Tonight. 7.00-9.00 Film: Three Musketeers (Oliver Reed, Michael York). 10.30 SWAT. 11.30 Curling. 12.15 am News. 12.20 Closedown.

HTV

As London except: Starts 10.00 Sesame Street 11.00 Wonders of the Underwater World. 11.30 Flintstones. 11.55-12.00 Cartoon. 1.20pm-1.30 News 2.45 Cartoon. 2.50-4.15 Film: How To Break Up A Happy Divorce (Barbara Eden, Hal Linden). Divorcee tries to win back her ex-husband 5.15-5.45 How's Your Father. 6.00 Report West. 6.30 Profile: Roger Moore. 10.26 News. 10.30 State Of The West. 11.00 Film Carnation Killer (Norman Eshley) Killer leaves a red carnation as a mark of identification. 12.20am Closedown.

HTV CYMRU/WALES

As HTV West except: 12.00-12.10pm Ffalabalam. 1.30-2.00 Happy Days 4.15-4.45 Cerddorion Y Souk. 6.00-6.15 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales. 6.30-7.00 Taff Acre. 7.00-8.00 Chips. 8.00-9.00 Tomorrow's Star . . . Maybe? 10.30 Film: Farewell My Lovely (Robert Mitchum, Charlotte Rampling) Bodyguard has a mystery on his hands — and a murder. 12.15 Closedown.

Entertainments Guide

Tetanus risk of dressings in first aid kits

By Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Correspondent

Dressings which could be infected with tetanus or other bacteria have been sold for a number of years in Britain in home, car and office first-aid kits. They should be treated with suspicion and burnt, the Department of Health and Social Security said yesterday.

Tests are being carried out at the Public Health Laboratories, Colindale, north London, to discover what organisms are present in the dressings imported from India.

The discovery that the dressings being sold by a certain Indian exporter were not sterile was made in Australia, when a woman developed gas gangrene after dressing a wound.

The Australian health authorities warned other importers about the danger and the British Department of Health issued a hazard notice on Monday.

The absorbent wound dressings are non-adhesive and are labelled Standard Dressing BPC, which stands for British Pharmaceutical Codex, and implies that they are prepared to British standards. They carry neither the brand nor the manufacturer's name.

The Department emphasized yesterday that it was highly unlikely that rare bacteria, such as gangrene or botulism (both members of the same bacterial family) would be found, but it was less unlikely that tetanus would be discovered since it was more common in India.

The main point to be remembered was that they were not sterile so any organism could be present, the Department said.

Using one was equivalent to dressing a wound with a clean handkerchief. It might appear clean, but could have become contaminated because it had been in contact with the air.

The Department has asked the importers for samples to test and sales have been frozen. The results will be known next week.

No public cash for Land's End, ministers decide

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

Ministers decided yesterday not to pay part of the cost of buying Land's End for the nation. Officials said that Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, had decided that the appeal for £500,000 could not be justified.

His decision caused confusion at the National Trust, which met yesterday in the hope of using a government contribution as a launching pad for a national appeal for the rest of the cost.

The property is being sold as a going concern by the family which has owned it since the eighteenth century. The spectacular coastline and its romantic associations make Land's End one of the most visited tourist spots in Britain, with 500,000 visitors a year. The present owner, Mr Charles Neave-Hill, is the 14th Master of Land's End.

Rumours of a sale began in September, and Humberts Landplan, who have managed the property for many years, have received many inquiries from potential buyers in Britain and abroad.

The trust said that it considered the £1m a fair offer, although it believed that the asking price was probably £1.75m. "The trust is in a dilemma", a spokesman said. "Half of what we considered a fair offer would have been a tremendous sort of incentive on which to launch an appeal."

Tories are uneasy about GLC ruling

Continued from page 1

but for local government throughout the country. It turned back "sixty years of social provision by local authorities and puts us back into a climate of opinion that says a councillor's prime aim is to keep rates down".

Mr David Wetzel, chairman of the GLC's transport committee, said that concessionary fares for children and old people might have to go. Traffic congestion, as a result of closure of bus and Underground routes, would increase by up to 8 per cent.

The ruling provoked a call from Sir Horace Cutler, leader of the council's Conservative group, for Mr Livingstone to resign.

But among some Conservative councillors, jubilation became more muted as they examined the details of the judgent. "A prescription for chaos" was an early reaction by a senior Tory councillor who had been invited to brief Mr Howell on the iplications of the ruling.

Conservatives also seemed surprisingly reluctant to refer the issue to the district auditor so that Labour councillors would personally be proceeded against for the losses the GLC will incur.

Ironically, too, the decision is thought by moderate Labour GLC members to have strengthened Mr Livingstone's position. As well as the backing of the Labour group on the fare issue, he may win the support of the three Liberal/SDP Alliance members who have publicly deplored Bromley's action.

It will be three to four weeks before Bromley's 114,000 ratepayers get their money back, Mr Barkway said yesterday. About 65 per cent of them had already started paying by bankers' orders and other methods and 15 per cent had paid the rates in total. Not a penny had been handed over to the GLC.

The "fares fair" scheme, a main plank of the GLC Labour group's election manifesto, began on October 5. Minimum fares on buses dropped from 12 to 10p and some people found their travel costs halved.



The loser Mr David Wetzel (above), GLC transport committee chief, and the victors, Mr Brian Reading (left), Bromley Council chairman, and councillor Dennis Barkway.





Foot issues double challenge to Benn

Continued from page 1

In the face of the onslaught Mr Benn remained impassive, but some of his supporters were outraged. Mr Dennis Skinner, MP for Bolsover, stormed out of the meeting and told waiting reporters that it had been "a complete tirade against Tony Benn".

Perhaps the best received speech was that of Mr Mellish. He disclosed that in October he had applied for the Chiltern Hundreds, but had withdrawn the application after talking to Mr Foot.

Mr Foot, winding up the debate, made tw odirect challenges to Mr Benn. He denied Mr Benn's assertion that MPs had threatened to defect unless he took action against Mr Tatchell. He said Mr Benn should say who those people were. And he asked Mr Benn to renounce the "hit list" which appeared in *London Labour Briefing*, of those London MPs who had backed Mr Denis Healey in the deputy leadership contest.

Mr Foot again defended his action over disowning Mr Tatchell, saying that the article Mr Tatchell had written about extra-parliamentary activity at such a time in a constituency such as Southwark, Bermondsey, would have given ammunition to Labour's opponents.

He denied that he was proposing a witch-hunt, but added: "There are more broomsticks in Bermondsey than anywhere else." In a strong appeal for unity, he urged the party in the ne wyear to carry out a self-denying ordinance against mutual attacks.

Labour's predicament is highlighted today in a Gallup poll in *The Daily Telegraph*, which indicates that more than the Social Democrat-Liberal alliance, and that the SDP has increased its support by a third in the past month. Only 23.5 per cent of the voters polled supported Labour and 23 per cent the Conservatives.

Gallup questioned 846 electors between December 9 and 14. Their voting preferences, with the previous month's findings in brackets, were: Conservative, 23 (26.5); Labour, 23.5 (29); Liberal, 14.5 (15); SDP, 36 (27); Others, 3 (2.5).

Frank Johnson on Lord Scarman

Stripped of his high office of Nice Judge

Labour MPs yesterday overturned their previous ruling on Lord Scarman.

Their decision, which was unanimous, came after they heard that five Law Lords, one of whom was Lord Scarman, had that morning decided that the Labour-controlled Greater London Council's subsidy to bus and Underground fares was illegal. In a series of carefully worded and weighty screams and heckles from the Labour benches all afternoon, Opposition members ruled that the Law Lords were ignorant, politically motivated, biased and blatantly on the side of privilege.

This reversed a previous judgment, made by the Labour Party ever since the Brixton riots, that Lord Scarman was well-informed, independent of the Right Wing Establishment, unbiased and unequivocally on the side of the dispossessed.

It was an afternoon which made legal history. Lord Scarman was stripped of the great office of Nice Judge.

In all fairness to the hard Labour left, it should be emphasized that real left-wingers have probably never shared the sentimental view of Lord Scarman. Their line is that, in conditions of capitalist modes of production, all judges are, as the jargon has it, "objectively" Tory—no matter how many West Indian steel bands they subject themselves to, down in Brixton.

But, ever since his incredibly compassionate inquiry into the summer disturbances, Lord Scarman had been the toast of softer, more middle class, progressives from Kentish Town all the way to Barnsbury. The representatives of that class were as dismayed as the hard left in the Commons yesterday. They united to berate Mrs Thatcher at Prime Minister's Question Time.

Mr Skinner, of the hard left, was the first to raise the matter. He protested to her about "the apparent conspiracy of Law Lords and Tory councils to push up fares".

Mrs Thatcher replied that this was a legal judgment. The Labour benches rang with cries of "Political! Political!" (Random thought: politics must be the only activity in the world whose practitioners use the name of their profession as a term of abuse. It is as if a gathering of doctors abused one another with cries of "Medical! Medical!" End of random thought.)

Later, Mrs Thatcher congratulated the Tory-controlled Bromley Council, the body that brought the action leading to the Law Lords' decision. This enraged the Labour benches still further. Mr Michael Neubert, the Tory member for Romford, rose and began a question with the inflammatory phrase: "As a former leader of Bromley Council . . ." He immediately became a hate-object.

The left-winger Mr Sydney Bidwell tried to rival Mr Neubert's connexions. He began his question with: "As a Londoner . . ." To establish his authority to speak with special knowledge on the subsidy controversy, that seemed rather flimsy.

We moved on to Business Questions, when members can raise virtually any subject with the Leader of the House, Mr Pym. The Law Lords' ruling was raised again. Mr Michael Foot demanded a debate on it next week. But the issue was subsumed in questions about the economy, Poland and other matters. This last category included Mr Ivan Lawrence, (Burton, C), who asked Mr Pym if something could be done about "the horrible smell of bacon and eggs that pervades this chamber". Mr Pym said he would gladly do so if he could trace the source.

Alas, one keeps on telling all those Labour cockneys not to bring into the chamber their toasted egg and bacon sandwiches.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester attends Court Luncheon given by The Worshipful Company of Gardeners, Savile Club, Brook Street, 12.45.

Exhibitions

Guild of Lakeland Craftsmen winter exhibition, Whitehaven Museum, Market Place, Whitehaven, Cumbria, 10 to 5.

Exhibition by Kodak, Yorkshire Post Building, Wellington Street, Leeds, 9 to 5.30.

Great North Road, Great Northern Railway, road and rail transport in the Welwyn, Hatfield area, Old Mill House Museum, Mill Green, Hatfield, Herts, 10 to 5.

J. Q. Pringle, Graves Art Gallery, Surrey Street, Sheffield, 10 to 8.

Duncan Grant, Works on Paper, Anthony d'Offay, 9, Dering Street, New Bond Street, 10 to 5.30 (last day).

William Havell bicentenary exhibition, Spink and Son, 5 King Street, St James's, 9.30 to 5.30 (last day).

Glimpses of Medical History and The Science and Art of Medicine, Wellcome Museum of the History of Medicine, Science Museum, 10 to 6.

Henry Lamb, New Grafton Gallery, 42 Old Bond Street, 10 to 6.

Navajo Indians, land and people, photographic exhibition, Horniman Museum, London Road, SE 23, 10.30 to 6.

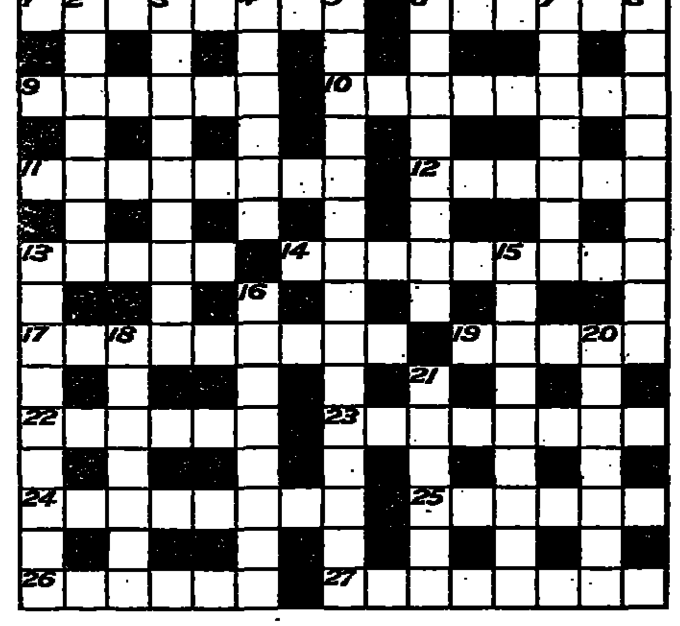
Music

York Musical Society concert, York Minster, 7.30.

City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Birmingham Town Hall, 11.

East Kent Federation of Women's Institutes, Canterbury Cathedral, 2.30.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,709



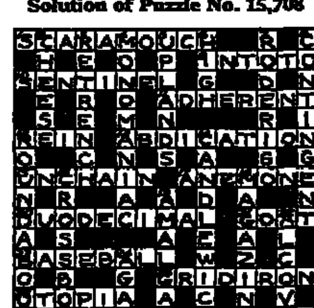
ACROSS

1 Prosaic practical way to earn one's daily bread (8)
6 Hurt me inside severely (6)
9 Cuts about half a coat — a house-coat (6)
10 No good looks single us out (8)
11 Lock holding well might prevent this (8)
12 Sauce from two sailors (6)
13 Arctic river, the French river (5)
14 A cut in £25 inheritance (9)
17 Practise writing and pleasing (9)
19 Jump about, king (5)
22 In particular, imitate the farmer's wife (6)
23 Belgian Moll? (8)
24 Give me back crackers and cheese (8)
25 A number take sport with this air target (6)
26 German translation — a crib (6)
27 At the present time, you heartlessly let mongrel die (8)

DOWN

2 Provincial sort of oration (7)
3 Thrill to George Bernard's fantastic creation (9)
4 Composer, God willing, comes upon king hidden in tree (6)
5 Corresponding subscription (5,10)
6 A jolly break in schooling (4-4)
7 Prime exponent of some art form (7)
8 HMS Siva (9)
13 Fancy supply of paper sent by tube (4-5)
15 Don't finish complaint, or it could be awkward (9)
16 Creator of Genesis, for example (8)
18 Turkish pouffe (7)
20 Silver ring touching bottom (7)
21 Wood footwear (6)

Solution of Puzzle No. 15,708



Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow
Jumbo Prize Crossword on Thursday, December 24

Auctions today

Bonhams, Montpelier Street: Chinese ceramics, works of art, paintings and snuff bottles, 10.30 and 2; prints, 11. Christie's, South Kensington: printed books, 10.30; Art Nouveau and Art Deco, 10.30. Phillips, Blenheim Street: silver and plate, 11. Sotheby's Bond Street: carpets, 10; furniture, 11.

Viewing

Phillips, Blenheim Street: silver and plate, 9 to 10.30; furniture, carpets, objects; watercolours and drawings; oil paintings; antique and modern jewelry, all 9 to 4.30.

Sporting fixtures

Football: Third division, Millwall v Plymouth Argyle (7.30); fourth division, Colchester United v Crewe Alexandra (7.30). Other matches off.

Show jumping: International Show, at Olympia (1.30 and 7.0).

Sport on TV

BBC 1: 10.20, International Show Jumping
BBC 2: 3.55, International Pro-celebrity Golf
ITV: 6.30, Thames Sport

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Debate on private member's motion on communications in London and the South-east.

Today's anniversaries

Joseph John Thomson, physicist, born at Cheetham Hall near Manchester, 1856. Antonio Stradivari died at Cremona, Italy, 1737.

Roads

Only light fresh snowfalls in Scotland, E Yorkshire and Cornwall, but some roads in Scotland, Pennines, N England and Wales still closed, including A939, Cockbridge Road in Aberdeenshire; A57, Snake Pass and A58 in Lancashire, Horseshoe Pass in Snowdonia. Roads remain very icy and M56 in North Wales reduced to two lanes; speed limits likely on motorways. Freezing fog also widespread, mainly southwards; drivers advised to exercise great care.

Roadworks:

North: A535: Alderley Road, Chelford closed between railway bridge and Curbishley Brook; diversion. A56: Roadworks at Hoole roundabout, Chester. A6023: Roadworks at Denaby Pastures Canal Bridge, S Yorkshire.

Wales and West: A40: Roadworks at Whitemill, Dyfed. A38: Westbound lane closures at Haldon Hill, Heathfield and northbound between Drybridge and Dean Prior. A483: Roadworks at Llanbister. A9: Blasting in progress from Broxden to Burnside Lodge each weekday, 1 to 3.

Midlands: A14: Southbound lane closure on Huntingdon bypass.

Roadworks may be cancelled if weather becomes unsuitable. Information supplied by AA and RAC.

The papers

The Washington Post said yesterday it was becoming clear that General Jaruzelski, who may mean to spare Poland the bloodier and costlier results of Russian intervention, "is doing the Soviet's dirty work for them".

While accepting the Lords' decision that GLC fare reductions were illegal, the Daily Mirror demands the law be changed. "When 939,451 votes for Labour in May count for less than five votes in the Lords in December, where does that leave local democracy?" it asks.

Top box office films

The top 10 films in London:
1 Gallipoli
2 The French Lieutenant's Woman
3 An American Werewolf In London
4 Mommie Dearest
5 Montenegro
6 The Fox and the Hound
7 For Your Eyes Only
8 Kentucky Fried Movie/The Other Cinderella
9 Raiders of the Lost Ark
10 Dressed to Kill/The Amityville Horror

The top five in the provinces:
1 The Fox and the Hound
2 10/Private Benjamin
3 An American Werewolf in London
4 The French Lieutenant's Woman
5 Midnight Express/McVicar

Compiled by Screen International

The Pound

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.71	1.64
Austria Sch	31.75	29.65
Belgium Fr	85.50	81.50
Canada $	2.32	2.23
Denmark Kr	14.48	13.78
France Fr	11.35	11.75
Germany DM	4.49	4.25
Greece Dr	121.00	113.00
Hongkong $	11.05	10.45
Ireland Pt	1.24	1.19
Italy Lir	2350.00	2250.00
Japan Yn	438.00	412.00
Netherlands Gld	4.88	4.64
Portugal Esc	129.00	122.00
South Africa Rd	1.90	1.74
Spain Pta	192.00	183.00
Sweden Kr	10.96	10.46
Switzerland Fr	3.62	3.40
USA $	1.95	1.88

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International.

London: The FT Index fell 1.9 to 518.7.

New York: The Dow Jones industrial average was up 1.81 at 870.53.

Food prices

Severe weather conditions have restricted supplies of home grown vegetables, so prices are likely to be higher than normal. But fruit, either imported or from cold stores, is generally unaffected.

Poultry, including turkeys, is plentiful and no abnormal price rises are anticipated. Pork and lamb prices are generally steady, but beef prices are continuing to rise, with topside at around £2.

Aid for Poland

Cheques and postal orders to: Save the Children Fund, 157, Clapham Road, London SW9 0PT (tel: 01-582 1414), or The Ockenden Venture (Poland), Guildford Road, Woking GU22 7UU (tel: 04862 72012).

Tinned foods, well packaged baby foods, toilet paper or soap (no jars or perishables) can be donated at any Oxfam office or shop.

Times world-wide

Noon in London is: 7 am in New York; 4 am in San Francisco; 9 pm in Tokyo; 11 pm in Canberra; 2 pm in Johannesburg; 4 pm in United Arab Emirates; 3 pm in Kenya; 1 pm in Nigeria; 3 pm in Moscow; 8 pm in Hong-Kong.

Christmas mail

Tomorrow is the last posting day for Christmas for first class mail.

Phoning Santa Claus

Children can telephone Santa Claus until December 29 for a story. The number in London is 246 8020. In most other places it is 8020 preceded by the area code.

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Weather

An area of low pressure will move E over France while a very cold N or NE airstream will persist over Britain.

6 am to midnight

London: Rather cloudy, perhaps a little snow at first, clearer later; wind NE, fresh or strong, becoming N, moderate; max temp 1C (34F).

SE England, East Anglia: Rather cloudy, scattered snow showers, especially near coasts, perhaps some longer outbreaks of snow at first; wind NE, fresh or strong, becoming N, moderate or fresh; max temp 0 to 2C (32 to 36F).

Central S, SW England, Midlands, Wales, Isle of Man: Mostly dry, sunny periods; wind N or NE, moderate or fresh; max temp 0 to 2C (32 to 36F).

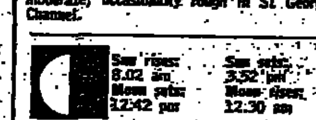
Channel Islands: Outbreaks of sleet or snow, becoming dry with sunny intervals; wind NE, strong or gale, becoming N, moderate; max temp 4C (39F).

E, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee: Sunny intervals, scattered snow showers, especially near coasts; patches of freezing fog inland; wind N, light or moderate; max temp 3C (37F) near coasts, colder in foggy areas.

NW, NE England, Lake District, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N Ireland: Mostly dray, sunny periods, patchs of freezing fog in places; wind N or NE, light or moderate; max temp −1 to 2C (30 to 36F); colder in foggy areas.

Outlook for the weekend: Little change; staying very cold with freezing fog in places and snow showers in N and E. More widespread sleet or snow may reach part of W later on Sunday.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Straits of Dover: Wind E, backing NE, strong or gale; sea rough or very rough. English Channel (E): Wind E or NE, strong to gale; sea rough or very rough. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind NE or N, fresh; sea moderate, occasionally rough in St George's Channel.



Sun rises: 8.02 am. Sun sets: 3.52 pm. Moon sets: 12.42 pm. Moon rises: 12.30 am.

Last quarter: 5.47 am.

Lighting up time

London 4.22 pm to 7.33 am
Bristol 4.32 pm to 7.42 am
Edinburgh 4.09 pm to 8.11 am
Manchester 4.20 pm to 7.52 am
Penzance 4.51 pm to 7.48 am

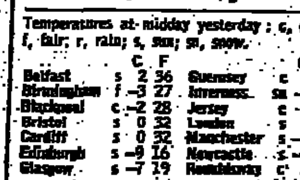
Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

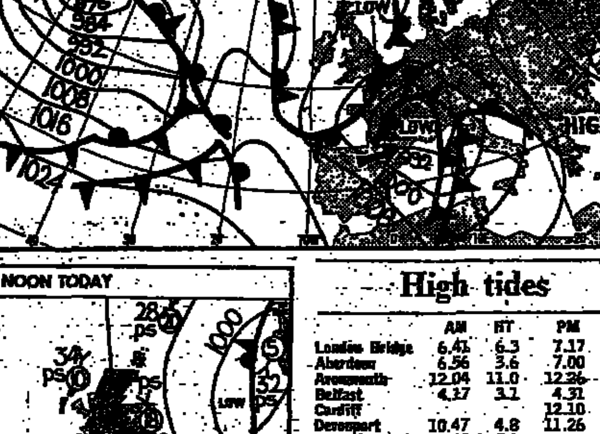
		C	F			C	F
Belfast	s	2	36	Guernsey	c	6	43
Birmingham	f	−3	27	Inverness	sn	−2	28
Blackpool	c	−2	28	Jersey	c	9	48
Bristol	s	0	32	London	s	2	36
Cardiff	s	0	32	Manchester	s	−1	30
Edinburgh	s	−9	16	Newcastle	s	−4	25
Glasgow	s	−7	19	Ronaldsway	c	3	37

Satellite predictions

Figures give time of visibility, where rising, maximum elevation, and direction of setting. Asterisk denotes entering or leaving eclipse. [illegible]







NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded (Symbols are on advancing edge)



b—blue sky; bc—blue sky and cloud; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; pr—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph.

High tides

[illegible]

Around Britain

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	F	
Scarborough	[illegible]				
Bridlington	[illegible]				
Cromer	[illegible]				
Lowestoft	[illegible]				
Poole	[illegible]				
Swanage	[illegible]				
Weymouth	[illegible]				
Exmouth	[illegible]				
Teignmouth	[illegible]				
Torquay	[illegible]				
Falmouth	[illegible]				
Penzance	[illegible]				
Ilfracombe	[illegible]				
Tenby	[illegible]				
Anglesey	[illegible]				

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow. [illegible]